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LONDON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1844.

REVIEWS

Memoirs of the Reign of King George III. By Horace Walpole. Now first published from the Original Manuscript; Edited with Notes by Sir Dennis le Marchant, Bart. 2 vols. Bentley.

WALPOLE describes this work as "the memoirs of men who had many faults, written by a man who had many himself, and who writes to inform, not to engross admiration." The two volumes now published, forming half of the entire work, treat of the first seven years of the reign of George III., a portion of our annals imperfectly known, but one which, though not marked by great events, was productive of incidents pregnant with subsequent revolutions. The efforts of the king to break up the political parties which had embarrassed the reign of George II., though apparently rising little above the level of ordinary court intrigues, led to the important discussions on general warrants and parliamentary privilege, and incidentally produced the American discontents, which ended in American independence. Scarcely less important was the great schism of the Whig party consequent on Lord Rockingham's administration: it put an end to that combination of the great Whig families, which had been able to command the sovereign from the time of the revolution, and gave to their adversaries the monopoly of office for a period of nearly the same duration. The history of such events was peculiarly suited to Walpole's powers; his connexion with Conway and other leaders of party opened to him the secret springs of public affairs, and he was less biased than in his *Memoirs of George II.*, where he to some extent made his father's policy his rule for the estimation of conduct. Of the present work he might more truly have boasted, than of the former, "that the failings of some of his nearest friends are as little concealed as those of other persons." We may quote as an instance, the harshness with which he speaks of Conway's conduct on several occasions, though his affection for that gentleman almost amounted to a passion. Walpole's estimate of the character of George III. was substantially the same as that of Junius: "Nature never intended him for anything but a good-humoured fool; long practice and a systematic education have made him a consummate hypocrite." He informs us that the Earl of Chatham was of the same opinion, and thus affords an explanation of the warm eulogy which that nobleman pronounced on the sincerity of George II., in a debate that had no perceptible connexion with that monarch's character. An act of insincerity, if Walpole can be credited, marked the king's first exercise of royalty:—

"The first moment of the new reign afforded a symptom of the Prince's character; of that cool dissimulation in which he had been so well initiated by his mother, and which comprehended almost the whole of what she had taught him. Princess Amalie, as soon as she was certain of her father's death, sent an account of it to the Prince of Wales; but he had already been apprised of it. He was riding, and received a note from a German valet-de-chambre, attendant on the late King, with a private mark agreed upon between them, which certified him of the event. Without surprise or emotion, without dropping a word that indicated what had happened, he said his horse was lame, and turned back to Kew. At dismounting he said to the groom, 'I have said this horse is lame; I forbid you to say the contrary.'"

The policy of the new reign was marked by an earnest desire to terminate the war with France, which under the vigorous guidance of Pitt, had been waged with unrivalled success in

every quarter of the globe. This resolution was openly stated in the royal speech:—

"The King's speech to his council afforded matter of remark, and gave early specimen of who was to be the confidential minister, and what measures were to be pursued: for it was drawn by Lord Bute, and communicated to none of the King's servants. It talked of a bloody and expensive war, and of obtaining an honourable and lasting peace. Thus was it delivered; but Mr. Pitt went to Lord Bute that evening, and after an alteration of three hours, prevailed that in the printed copy the words should be changed to an expensive but just and necessary war; and that after the words honourable peace should be inserted, in concert with our allies. Lord Mansfield and others counselled these palliatives too: but it was two o'clock of the following afternoon before the King would yield to the alteration."

Bute's notions of government were derived from Lord Bolingbroke's "Patriot-king," that is, a sovereign who should emancipate himself from the trammels of his ministers, by showing himself to be the benefactor of the people; but the Princess of Wales, who equally disliked Whig dictation, had derived her ideas of administration from the petty despotisms of Germany, and taught her son to look for his emancipation, by a vigorous exertion of his prerogative. Bute had neither the intelligence nor the strength of character necessary to realize the idealisms of Bolingbroke, and the King was not a person either able or willing to pursue a bold, straightforward course of policy. The opening made for Bute's admission to the cabinet, by the ungracious dismissal of Lord Holderness, is justly condemned by Walpole.

Fox, afterwards Lord Holland, is said by our author to have formed a project for elevating to the rank of queen, his sister-in-law, Lady Sarah Lennox, to whom George III. was much attached. The princess dowager, in alarm, sent an old Jacobite, who had been out in the '45, to hunt for a queen in the petty courts of Germany, and it was in consequence of his recommendation, that the golden apple was given to the Princess of Mecklenburg. Hume subsequently congratulated the Colonel on having changed the dangerous trade of making kings to the profitable one of making queens. It has been remarked that notwithstanding the King's professions of piety, he sought for his counsellors some of the greatest profligates in England, Lord Talbot, Sir Francis Dashwood, and the Earl of Sandwich.

Pitt's acceptance of a pension, after he had been driven to a resignation by the intrigues of Lord Bute and the Duke of Newcastle, greatly damaged his popularity. Some years before he had harshly reproached his sister for accepting a pension from the Princess of Wales; she now copied his letter, turning it against himself, and though dissuaded from sending it, she boasted of what she had done, until it became the common talk of the town. His popularity, however, was restored by his opposition to the disgraceful peace which terminated a glorious war. His sudden appearance in the House of Commons to denounce the negotiations is described with great effect:—

"The very uncertainty whether Mr. Pitt's health would allow him to attend, concurred to augment the impatience of the public on so serious a crisis. The Court, it was true, had purchased an effective number of votes to ratify their treaty; but, could Mr. Pitt appear, he might so expose the negotiation, and give breath to such a flame, that the ministers could not but be anxious till the day was decided, and they knew all that they had to apprehend from Mr. Pitt. Their hopes grew brighter as the debate began, and he did not appear. The probability of his absence augmented as Beckford proposed to refer the preliminaries to a committee of the whole House; a measure that seemed calculated to gain time, and that

was seconded by James Grenville, who told the courtiers that it did not look as if they were very desirous of praise, so eager were they to hurry through the question. The demand was opposed by Ellis, Sir Francis Dashwood, and Harris of Salisbury, when the House was alarmed by a shout from without! The doors opened, and at the head of a large acclamatory concourse was seen Mr. Pitt, borne in the arms of his servants, who, setting him down within the bar, he crawled by the help of a crutch, and with the assistance of a few friends, to his seat; not without the sneers of some of Fox's party. In truth, there was a mixture of the very solemn and the theatric in this apparition. The moment was so well-timed, the importance of the man and his services, the languor of his emaciated countenance, and the study bestowed on his dress, were circumstances that struck solemnity into a patriot mind, and did a little furnish ridicule to the hardened and insensible. He was dressed in black velvet, his legs and thighs wrapped in flannel, his feet covered with buskins of black cloth, and his hands with thick gloves. He said a few words in support of the motion for sending the preliminaries to a committee; not in order to give time for raising animosities, but as it was for the dignity of the King and the country to weigh them maturely. Parts of the treaty he confessed were, beyond his expectation, good; but his mind was wounded by what regarded our trade and our allies. He wished for a committee, that he might call merchants to the bar to state the importance of what we were to keep, of what we were to give away. He would be convinced we were doing right, or he would inflexibly arraign."

We may here introduce a curious instance of the boldness of Calvert, one of the first who raised in parliament the cry of favouritism against the Earl of Bute:—

"He drew a picture of a fictitious family in Surrey, whom he called the *Steadys*, describing two old Steadys and a young one; with a very particular account of young Steady's mother, and of her improper intimacy with a Scotch gardener—he hoped the true friends of young Steady would advise him to recall his old friends, and turn away the Scotch gardener. No reply was made, for none could be made, without carrying the application too home."

Walpole ascribes Bute's unexpected resignation, to his dread of a popular tumult in consequence of the tax on cider. He probably remembered the danger to which the cry against "excise" had exposed Sir Robert Walpole, but he sadly overrated the perils of the crisis:—

"Few political clouds seemed less big with mischief than this storm, unnaturally conjured up, and little likely to last; for what principle of union could there be in common between the City of London and two or three distant counties whose apples were to be taxed? The spell, *excise*, was pronounced, but had lost its terrors. They who sounded loudest the alarm, neither were alarmed, nor expected to breathe much dread into others. But there was a frame of nerves more easily thrown into disorder; fear seized on the favourite; he said, 'We shall have thirty thousand men come down to St. James's!' The assault that had been made on him the first day of the session had left a lasting impression; and he had showed, early in the reign, that fortitude was not a ruling ingredient in his composition. He had appointed himself a guard of bruisers the day of his attending the King into the City in 1761, when Mr. Pitt made his insolent parade thither at the same time. Now, bating the slight distemper occasioned by the cider-tax, England seemed to be willingly, and submissively, prostrate at the favourite's feet. Would she have rebelled for a partial tax, after acquiescing in the peace? Fear does not calculate, but lumps apprehensions in the gross. The panic was taken, and on the seventh of April, to the surprise of mankind, it was notified that Lord Bute intended to resign the next day, and to retire for his health, not being able to go through the fatigue of business."

The belief that Bute, after his resignation, still continued to exercise an important influence in the royal councils was very general, and was the principal cause of the great success of Wilkes's paper, the *North Briton*. Many numbers of that publication would have furnished

better grounds for indictment than that which was chosen, the celebrated 45, and in fact the passages in that paper which gave most offence (those which alluded to the treatment of the King of Prussia), were not specified in the indictment, so conscious were the ministers of the weakness of their case, that they had to mix up with the political libel 'Wilkes's Essay on Woman,' a copy of which could only be procured by treachery. This said Essay is one of the most dull and stupid pieces of obscenity that the world ever produced; conscious of its literary demerits, Wilkes only printed twelve copies, but the notice attracted to this wretched production by the ministry has kept it in the market ever since. The treachery by which a copy was obtained made many—we might almost say the majority of—persons of right feeling forget the blasphemy of the work in the infamy of the accusers:—

"The plot so hopefully laid to blow up Wilkes, and ruin him in the estimation of all the decent and grave, had, at least in the latter respect, scarce any effect at all. The treachery was so gross and scandalous, so revengeful, and so totally unconnected with the political conduct of Wilkes, and the instruments so despicable, odious, or in whom any pretensions to decency, sanctimony, or faith, were so preposterous, that losing all sight of the scandal contained in the poem, the whole world almost united in crying out against the informers. Sandwich, in opening the discovery, had canted till his own friends could not keep their countenances. Sir Francis Dashwood was not more notorious for singing profane and lewd catches; and what aggravated the hypocrisy, scarce a fortnight had passed since this holy Secretary of State himself had been present with Wilkes at a weekly club to which both belonged, held at the top of Covent Garden Theatre, and composed of players and the loosest revellers of the age. Warburton's part was only ridiculous, and was heightened by its being known that Potter, his wife's gallant, had had the chief hand in the composition of the verses. However, an intimacy commenced between the Bishop and Sandwich, and some jovial dinners and libations of champagne cemented their friendship. Kidgell, the jackall, published so precise, affected, and hypocritical an account of the transaction, that he, who might have escaped in the gloom of the treachery, completely blushed his own reputation; and falling into debt, was, according to the fate of inferior tools, abandoned by his masters, and forced to fly his country."

Walpole observes that the debates on Wilkes gave rise to greater personalities than had been previously usual in parliamentary debate.

During this unhappy period, Grenville, the originator of American taxation, had won his way to power, which he tried to preserve by alternately wheedling and bullying all those who possessed parliamentary influence. Walpole's account of his interview with the minister, when Grenville was anxious to secure the Conways, is characteristic of both parties:—

"Though I had given too little encouragement to expect any alteration either in Mr. Conway's or my own sentiments, Grenville persisted in the interview. I went accordingly to Mr. Thomas Pitt's. It happened to be the evening of the riot on burning the North Briton. Grenville arrived in the most ridiculous and extraordinary disorder I ever saw. He could scarce articulate for passion. One would have thought the City had been taken by storm and the guards cut to pieces. Yet this was not a panic. It was a rage to see authority set at naught while he was minister. His subsequent conduct gave evidence that this was his sensation: no man ever bore power with more pride. For some time I could scarce learn what had provoked him: the confusion of his ideas made him talk as if Mr. Conway had raised a rebellion. Commanding my laughter, and waiting with patience till the torrent should have spent itself, but to no purpose, I was forced at last to ask what the riot had to do with Mr. Conway's case? This unfortunate question, like snatching a pebble from amidst a cascade, did but make it dash at random on all sides. From seven

in the evening till ten at night, I sat to hear his inundation of words, scarce uttering ten myself: and we parted with as little fruit as might be expected from a conversation so intemperate and disjointed; the result of all I said being to repeat my request that he would have patience, and assuring him that he would not find Mr. Conway engaged in any regular opposition."

About the close of the fifth year of his reign, George III. was attacked with the first known symptoms of the malady from which he never was altogether free, and which, in the earlier part of his reign, made him as dependent on his mother as he was at a later period on Queen Charlotte. It has been insinuated, but never directly stated, that the secret of Lord Bute's influence was his early knowledge of the King's predisposition to insanity, for the possession of which he was indebted to the Princess of Wales. It is now generally known that George III. was disordered in his intellects far more frequently than it was found convenient to make public, and that the charge of usurping the functions of royalty, which Earl Grey fastened on the Earl of Eldon, might have been extended to other and older officers of state. Walpole assails Lord Bute for having secreted the King; but other information proves that his lordship's object was to prevent any discovery of the nature of his disease. This is, in fact, apparent from Walpole's own account, when viewed in connexion with the evidence published in Adolphus's History of England:—

"Some time before his marriage the King's face was full of pimples. These had so entirely disappeared, that it was apprehended he had made use of external remedies to repel them. It is certain that from that time he frequently laboured with disorders on his breast, particularly during the Queen's first pregnancy. He was now again seized with a cough and fever, for which he was repeatedly bled four times, and was apprehended to be in much danger.* So critical a situation made men take notice that, to secrete him from all intercourse with his Court, Lord Bute had placed the King at Buckingham House, a damp unwholesome spot, and rendered more perilous by the neighbourhood of two infectious hospitals. The vigour of his age and his sanguine constitution seemed to require more exercise and air than he enjoyed in that sauntering and domestic life. It was even said that Dr. Duncan advising his Majesty to have one of his palaces in the country fitted up, and to live there for some time, Lord Bute harshly reprimanded the physician, and asked him what he had to do to advise beyond his line?—a question which reason could easily have answered, though awe might not."

This attack of disease led to the Regency Bill, which broke up the Grenville administration. The name of the King's mother was omitted in the list of persons nominated to the council of regency, and Walpole gives the following account of the artifices employed to gain the King's consent to the omission:—

"Lord Halifax and Lord Sandwich (the latter of whom had probably machinated so treacherous a step) had posted to Buckingham House a little before the Lords assembled, and surprising the King alone, had most falsely, and contrary to all likelihood, assured him, that the House of Commons would certainly strike the name of the Princess Dowager out of the bill; and therefore that the most decent and prudent method to save the honour of his Majesty and her Royal Highness would be, for his Majesty to permit it to be hinted to the Lords, that he himself desired their Lordships would omit his mother's name, before they transmitted the bill to the Commons. The

* Mr. Adolphus, in the new edition of his History, says "The malady with which his Majesty was afflicted, exhibited symptoms similar to those which, in 1788, and during the last years of his life, gave so much unhappiness to the nation. I did not mention the fact in former editions of this work, because I knew that the King and all who loved him were desirous that it should not be brought into notice. So anxious were they on this point, that Smollett having intimated it in his complete History of England, the text was revised in the general impression—a very few copies in the original form were disposed of, and they are now rare." Adolphus, vol. i. p. 175.—E.

young inexperienced monarch, taken by surprise, alarmed at the insult announced, and not having time, or not having presence of mind to demand time for consulting his mother and his Favourite, answered with good nature, that he would consent if it would satisfy his people. The traitors seized that assent, and, hurrying away with double rapidity to the House of Lords, procured in the very name of their master that indelible stigma on his own mother!"

The influence of the Princess Dowager procured the dismissal of Grenville and his adherents, but not until the fatal Stamp Act had completely alienated the colonies from the parent country. When the Rockingham ministry succeeded, though they repealed the Stamp Act, they were forced to assert the supremacy of England over the colonies in terms which rendered their concession scarcely less offensive than the measure it was designed to remedy. Pitt's refusal of support to the Rockingham administration was similar in its nature and results to Earl Grey's abnegation of Canning in more modern times; it damaged the new ministry, but at the same time it injured the policy of which Pitt professed himself an advocate. The secret acts of the King were, however, as fatal to the Rockingham cabinet as they were subsequently to the Coalition ministry. The nature of those acts may be appreciated from the following anecdote:—

"Lord Strange, one of the placemen who opposed the repeal of the Stamp Act, having occasion to go in to the King on some affair of his office, the Duke of Lancaster, the King said, he heard that it was reported in the world, that he (the King) was for the repeal of that Act. Lord Strange replied, that idea did not only prevail, but that his Majesty's Ministers did all that lay in their power to encourage that belief, and that their great majority had been entirely owing to their having made use of his Majesty's name. The King desired Lord Strange to contradict that report, assuring him it was not founded. Lord Strange no sooner left the closet, than he made full use of the authority he had received, and trumpeted all over the town the conversation he had had with the King. So extraordinary a tale soon reached the ear of Lord Rockingham, who immediately asked Lord Strange if it was true what the King was reported to have said to him? The other confirmed it. On that, Lord Rockingham desired the other to meet him at Court, when they both went into the closet together. Lord Strange began, and repeated the King's words; and asked if he had been mistaken? The King said, 'No.' Lord Rockingham then pulled out a paper, and begged to know, if on such a day (which was minutes down on the paper) his Majesty had not determined for the repeal? Lord Rockingham then stopped. The King replied, 'My lord, this is but half; and taking out a pencil, wrote on the bottom of Lord Rockingham's paper words to this effect: 'The question asked me by my Ministers was, whether I was for enforcing the Act by the sword, or for the repeal? Of the two extremes I was for the repeal; but most certainly preferred modification to either.'"

Pitt succeeded Lord Rockingham, and was elevated to the peerage as Earl of Chatham:—

"That fatal title blasted all the affection which his country had borne to him, and which he had deserved so well. Had he been as sordid as Lord Northampton, he could not have sunk lower in the public esteem. The people, though he had done no act to occasion reproach, thought he had sold them for a title, and, as words fascinate or enrage them, their idol Mr. Pitt was forgotten in their detestation of the Lord Chatham. He was paralleled with Lord Bath, and became the object at which were shot all the arrows of calumny. He had borne his head above the obloquy that had attended his former pension—not a mouth was opened now in defence of his title—as innocent as his pension, since neither betrayed him into any deed of servility to prerogative and despotism. Both were injudicious; the last irrecoverably so. The blow was more ruinous to his country than to himself. While he held the love of the people, nothing was so formidable in Europe as his name. The talons of the lion were drawn, when he was no longer awful in

his own forests. The City of London had intended to celebrate Mr. Pitt's return to employment, and lamps for an illumination had been placed round the Monument. But no sooner did they hear of his new dignity, than the festival was counter-ordered. The great engine of this disaffection was Lord Temple, who was so shameless as to publish the history of their breach, in which he betrayed every private passage that Mr. Pitt had dropped in their negotiation and quarrel, which could tend to inflame the public or private persons against him."

We must wait for the remaining volumes before entering into particulars of the complete disruption of the old Whig party which was consummated in the Chatham administration. We cannot, however, quit the portion before us without bearing testimony to the care and intelligence with which it has been edited by Sir Denis Le Marchant. The notes he has appended contain all the information which a reader can desire, and what is nearly as valuable, they contain nothing more.

Justus Möser's Complete Works.—[*Sammtliche Werke*].—*Museus's Popular Fables*.—[*Volksmährchen, &c.*] Leipzig, Mayer & Wigand; London, Williams & Norgate.

EVEN the Germans are becoming dissipated in their literature. A Wordsworth among them, just now, in a fault-finding mood, might complain, as he did of England some years ago, that he found—

—no determined way.

But equally a want of books and men.

They seem tired of their boundaries of thought and action; yea, even of the confines of their own copious language, and are busily grasping the riches of foreign literature. Translations from the French and English are quite in vogue among them, and no longer contented to pore over Milton, Pope, and Young, Voltaire and Rousseau, they are eagerly reading translations of George Sand and Lamennais, of Balzac, Theodore Hook, Harrison Ainsworth, Bulwer, Marryat and Charles Dickens. Something of the temper of Ludwig Börne seems spreading among their young men; and the good-natured, contented German must now be sarcastic. There are considerable attempts made, too, among their light authors, to imitate English humour; but, as far as we have seen, with only moderate success.

Yet, amid this zeal for the collection of foreign literature, from the oldest Sanscrit slokas of India to the newest trifle published in Paris, they do not forget their own writers of the last century—not even those of minor fame. Some of these old authors better express the true German character than the modern literary cosmopolites. And the young German student who may be lost amid the multiplicity of literary catalogues will, perhaps, receive with pleasure a few brief notices of such old but not obsolete writers as may repay his attention.

These older German writers are of a very quiet and sober character compared with the fantastic genius of light literature in our days. But even, for this reason, they are sometimes welcome, as a page of Addison is good after 'Harry Lorrequer.' One is not always disposed to laugh every five minutes, or to burst into a fit of wonder on the turning over of every leaf. Sobriety has its charms; and, in spite of Horace, we sometimes read minor poets. We sometimes flee from all the splendours of 'Paradise Lost,' and all the sublime shadows of the 'Divine Comedy,' to refresh ourselves (like Prior with the barber and his wife) among the lowly people in the literary world. In such a mood, we can read Somerville's 'Chace,' (though, with all its strenuous diversions, it will not long chase away sleep), or we can go through Hayley's 'Triumphs of Temper' without ending in Green's 'Spleen.'

The 'Splendid Shilling' is welcome; we can repose awhile upon Dyer's 'Fleece,' or even spend an evening with Shenstone at the Leasowes. And, in such a mood, we can take up the old German writers, of whose works, lately republished, we may give some brief notices.

The reader who likes sometimes to wander out of the broad glare of modern notoriety into the shady places, the quiet obscurities of literature, may find ample amusement of that kind among the minor German writers, of whom we may here quote two or three as specimens. But against some of them we must warn him as too dull and sleepy to fill an hour even with the feeblest pleasure. For instance, if he meet with a certain old bard called Bodmer, who wrote a very dry epic on the Deluge, styled the 'Noachide,' he must have nothing to do with it. He might as well stand and hear two blacksmiths perform upon the anvil all a summer's day. From such music, surely, Bodmer (who had translated Homer) derived his idea of rhythm. Of Klopstock, far-famed and seldom read, we need say nothing. Gessner's 'Louisia' may, even now, be read through during a sleepy summer's afternoon. We have proved the fact by a fair experiment; for we have some vanity in such achievements. With considerable regret have we observed that the power of patient, quiet reading has declined among us of late, and we are determined to be the last to yield to modern frivolity. We fear few could be found among our light readers able to get through even Goethe's 'Hermann and Dorothea,' a genuine epic poem in nine books of hexameters, and without one striking accident, either comical or tragical, unless it be that the noble heroine (one of our favourites) sprains her ankle just at the conclusion of the eighth book. Yet that poem was written after the French Revolution, and even refers to its events.

But to return to our selected minorities of literature: readers of a quiet temper, such as we have described, may find some amusement in *Museus* and *Möser*. The first of these, indeed, deserves perhaps a higher station than that which we have assigned to him. The original wit and humour with which he has dressed up many of the old popular legends of Germany, which he collected from the lips of little children, old women and old soldiers, with whom he would sit and chatter for hours, as his biographer tells us, have made him not only a favourite with his countrymen, but have even introduced his tales in a new edition, lately, at Paris. His characteristics are, a constant liveliness of humour and gaiety of imagination, which can make even childish old legends readable; while his extensive reading and observation are shown in the variety of learned allusions which he will interperse throughout the texture of a fairy-tale. His style is quite his own, and far superior to the subjects upon which he employed it—sylphs, gnomes, fairies, and all the drolleries of Rübezahl, the subterranean demon of the Hartz Mountains. As conciseness is not one of his traits, we find some difficulty in making a short extract from any one of his stories; but the following introduction to the legend of the Crusader and the Eastern Princess, 'Melechsala,' as *Museus* styles her, may give some notion of the author's manner:—

The pious landgravine felt the pain of separation from her husband as severely as her fellow-sufferer, the Countess of Gleichen. Although her lord, the landgrave, was naturally a man of a rude and violent character, yet she lived with him in most perfect concord, and his earthly nature was so gradually transmuted by the sanctity of his devoted spouse, that some generous historians have even bestowed upon him, also, the title of a saint; but this, most likely, was, like our modern titles, "great," "most worthy," "most learned," &c., a mere compliment—a profes-

sional gilding of the man. This, however, we know with certainty, that the illustrious pair would not always have agreed so sweetly in the practice of good works had not a supernatural agency, now and then, interfered to maintain domestic peace, as the following authentic anecdote may explain. The pious landgravine had a passion (much to the vexation of her courtiers and attendants) for feeding, with her own gracious hand, from the leavings of her table, a hundred beggars, who were always found encamped around her residence. The excellent cook of the castle, and all her hangers-on, made as much outcry about this act of charity as if the landgrave's whole estate were going to perdition; and my lord, who was fond of economizing in little matters, considered it such a serious extravagance, that he strictly forbade his lady the benevolent practice, her only dear hobby-horse. But one day she could resist no longer the temptation at once to benevolence and matrimonial disobedience. She gave orders to her confidential maids to prepare a contraband cargo of eatables for the beggars, and, carrying them in a basket, my lady stole away out of the castle to relieve her dependents. But one of my lord's spies had revealed his lady's benevolent purpose, and the landgrave had thought proper himself to leave the castle at the same time, and to promenade upon the draw-bridge for the benefit of the fresh air. As his lady came out with her well-filled basket, alas! she heard the jingling of his golden spurs, and became suddenly so agitated that she dare not advance upon her mission of mercy. She concealed the basket under her apron; but this proved no secure asylum from her lord's investigation. He suspected treachery, and approached her with a frowning brow and flushed face. "My lady," said he, angrily, "what may you have to hide in that basket? The provisions from my table, I suppose, with which you feed a crowd of lazy mendicants?" "Nothing of the kind," replied the pious landgravine; and, judging that in her critical situation the necessary lie would not detract from her established sanctity, she added, "they are merely roses which I have plucked in the castle garden." Now, were the landgrave our cotemporary, he would surely believe his lady on her word of honour, and abstain from all further investigation; but this was not the way in the rude old times. "Let me see what you are carrying away," said the stern husband, and rudely tore away from his trembling lady her apron. She could only exclaim, "Mind what you are doing!" blushing for the shame of being discovered in a lie before her household. But, oh wonder of wonders! the "corpus delicti" had actually been metamorphosed into a nosegay of most beautiful roses! the white rolls were white roses, the sausages were purple roses, and the omelettes were yellow roses! With joyful astonishment the lady perceived the marvellous transformation that had been wrought, and could hardly believe her own eyes; for never had she ascribed, even to her own guardian saint, the politeness of working such a miracle to support a wife in the proof of a falsehood. As for the landgrave he was fully restored to his faith in the sanctity of his good spouse, and placed one of the roses, as a badge of her triumphant innocence, in his hat-band. Whether or not it was reconverted into a sausage the next day history does not tell us; but, as soon as her spouse had left her with a kiss of peace, the holy lady proceeded on her merciful errand, well assured that the miraculous process would be reversed in her favour, and so it was; for when she arrived among her hungry dependents she found all the roses, white, purple, and yellow changed again into rolls, sausages, and omelettes.

Justus Möser is a good specimen of the old-fashioned writers of Germany. He had humour and some descriptive talent, and Goethe makes honourable mention of him in his reminiscences, 'Aus meinem Leben.' He was something of a "laudator temporis acti," and liked to draw a contrast between the good old homely German style of living and the general fashions which began to prevail in his day. This is the purport of his 'Spinning-room,' a story from which we may give a few paragraphs:—

Selinda (so we will call her, though she was baptized Gertrude) was the eldest daughter of respectable parents, and was accustomed, from her youth, to consider the necessary and useful, and that alone, beauti-

ful and agreeable. But everything truly useful she was allowed to possess in the highest perfection. Her father, a man of great experience, had, in respect of books, limited himself by similar principles. "The sciences," said he, "belong to the luxuries of the mind, and in our station of life, where we have enough to do with necessities, we must not lavish the faculties of our souls upon superfluities." Selinda herself seemed to be formed by nature upon this principle, and presented a perfect model of all that was useful. The whole household arrangement was in the same style. When the mother heard of an excellent cow she would not rest until she possessed it. The best garden in the neighbourhood belonged to Selinda. None could excel her turnips; and the bishop would have no other butter upon his table than that which came from her hands. Her clothing was, according to the season, thin or thick linen, neither laced nor flounced, but so neat and decent that a grace seemed to lodge in every stitch. The only superfluous thing you could find about her was a bloomy heather-twig in her light, brown hair; but one could forgive her this little piece of pomp, as she said it was the only one she meant to indulge in, and she knew how to preserve the plant so that its flowers lost none of their beauty in winter. On entering the house, you found, upon your right hand, a hall or room—(you can hardly say which it should be called; most likely, it was originally a hall). Selinda employed it as her spinning-room; for she reckoned a lightsome, spacious, and clean apartment among the first necessities of her life. One window of this spinning-room looked out upon the poultry-yard, another upon the front glass-plot, a third looked into the kitchen, and just opposite was the cellar-door. And here Selinda had spent, industriously and happily, many of her days, sitting upon a three-legged stool (she preferred this to a four-legged one, because she could turn herself round so noiselessly upon it), with one foot turning her wheel, with the other rocking the cradle, with one hand holding her book, the other guiding the thread, and her eyes turned in due order to the poultry-yard, the front-yard, the kitchen and the cellar-door."

There is a picture of happy industry for our young ladies to study! The author goes on to depict this well-regulated family, and then brings upon the scene a suitor for Selinda's busy hand—Arist, a good young man, but endowed with some *à la mode* propensities. After many visits, this youth ventures to find fault with the arrangements of the spinning-room, and a long and warm argument takes place between the father of Selinda and her lover, on the respective merits of old and new fashions, ending, as usual, in stalemate. But when Selinda is married, she thinks it proper to yield to the taste of her husband, and, therefore, falls awhile into all the fashionable modes of wasting life. At last, Arist becomes heartily weary of late hours, senseless luxury, and heavy idleness, makes his confession to Selinda, returns from Paris to his country residence, furnishes a spinning-room after Selinda's model, and spends happy evenings amid the songs of his children accompanied by the hum of the spinning-wheel: and thus the old fashion triumphs!

Such stories as Möser wrote would scarcely attract magazine-readers in the present day, who have not patience enough to consider what is quiet and good. For our part, if we can find an acceptor of our challenge, we will undertake to prove that such lowly things contain more of that which is truly great as well as good, than many grand supernatural poems and startling romances. Greatly should we enjoy the pleasure of hearing such sublimely plain and simple, real and sound stories, read to a congregation of blue-stockings and sentimentalists, as a test of a literary taste. Anything sound and sincere is so welcome to us, in these artificial times, that we should be pleased with it even if it came in the shape of a solemn treatise on the feeding of young turkeys (a very delicate affair by the by) written by a man who really had a warm

interest in the rearing of those fowls. But enough of our comment on Möser. We have not room to give extracts of sufficient length to develop his spirit; but our readers may form a guess of it, and not order his collected works, supposing him to be some sublimely metaphysical or sentimental author—as, *vice versa*, we received once from Germany, eight thick octavo volumes of metaphysical discussion upon all things in heaven and earth, when we had intended to order only a pleasant little book of travels.

There are some other minor writers of the last century, whom we should like to introduce to young students of German literature; but our space will only allow us to mention them. There is *Knigge*, who wrote a famous book on the most prudent methods of maintaining a friendly intercourse with the various characters found in society. He tells you, most particularly, how to conduct yourself towards the choleric, the sanguine, the nervous, the phlegmatic, the amiable, the morose, the sarcastic, and the suspicious; in short, all the varieties of human nature. His observations are often shrewd and useful; and yet the joke of the book is, that its most prudent author was always unfortunate in his friendships, and could never behave himself well in society long together. His autobiography represents him as a man of good humour, nevertheless, and we are told that, when he was confined to his bed for some years by a painful illness, he had private concerts in his chamber, and used to perform his part on the bassoon in bed! That would make quite a picture, we fancy.

Then among the minor poets there is *Gleim*, a happy little fellow—far happier than greater men generally can make themselves—who reckoned himself a German Anacreon, and, after being sorely jilted, solaced himself with many friends, and would have nothing to do with love except in his verses, where Cupid plays the principal part; and, in this way, lived to be eighty, saying, at the close of his career,

"All my life, thank Heaven! has been
One melodious song!"

A comfortable, subjective little man he was, as the Germans would say, who made himself happy by making his study a snug little world, into which he could retreat from the great world; and thus the French Revolution passed by while he was cheerfully scribbling his anacreontics. Again, we would mention *Garce* as among the most amiable of the minor authors. His essay on 'Mountain Scenery' is pleasant.

Some of *Caroline Pichler's* tales are interesting. Droll humour will be found in *Lichtenberg*. *Leisewitz* wrote nothing but one tragedy, 'Julius of Tarent,' which has some pathetic passages. *Rabener* is a most stingless but amusing little satirist. Some of *Holly's* poems are pleasing. Of *Ruckert's* poems, a good specimen has been given in an English version of his 'Address of a Dying Flower to the Sun.' And we might proceed to mention with some commendation *Engel*, *Falk*, *Kleist*, *Langbein*, *Matthison*, *Schulze*, *Seume*, *Tiedge*, *Voss*, and *Uhland*; in whose writings the young German reader may find harmless amusement; but we have already given more attention to these antiquities of some twenty or thirty years ago, than can be tolerated by the rapid progress of modern literature.

For ourselves, both in our English and German reading, we like, now and then, to go back to the days when poets had time to polish their verses, and when authors, generally, did not write in such vehement haste as now urges them to the press and before the public, with books published a sheet at a time. We think that the reading of old and of new works should be seasonably intermingled, that so the reader's

taste may be less confined to the style reigning in the present day.

Bokhara: its Amir and its People. Translated from the Russian of Khanikoff. By the Baron Clement A. de Bode. Madden.

DURING the last five centuries, a large share of public interest has been directed to the Khanat of Bokhara, as the great central point where the lines of commercial intercourse between north-eastern and southern and western Asia converge; recent events have attracted a more painful curiosity towards this country, since its exploration has cost the lives of our countrymen Stoddart and Conolly. Khanikoff, the author of the volume before us, appears to have visited Bokhara in an official capacity; he has compiled his account from the narratives of previous travellers, connected and enlarged by his own observation, and appears, in some instances, to have obtained valuable information from the Mohammedan authorities. We shall endeavour to give a compressed outline of his description of the land, people, and ruler of Bokhara, referring those who are anxious for further details to the work itself.

The boundaries of the Khanat of Bokhara are fixed by mountains on the north and east; they meet the Persian provinces on the south and south-west, where the deserts, to some extent, form a natural frontier, and on the western side it is nominally joined by the Khanat of Khiva, but the great extent of the intervening desert renders it impossible to fix a definite frontier. The extent of the Khanat of Bokhara may be estimated at about 5,600 square miles, but not more than the tenth part of this is inhabited, the remainder being unfit for occupation, or at least untenanted. The country, for the most part, presents the aspect of a succession of clayey, saline soil and sandy steppes, having a visible slope to the south-west. Its chief rivers are the Amú-Dariya (Oxus) and its tributaries, but the termination of the Amú in the sea of Aral, renders it of comparatively little value as a highway for trade. Khanikoff enters at some length into the discussion of the *evacata questio*, the ancient course of the Oxus, and inclines to join those who assert, that the river, at one period, flowed into the Caspian; we have not, however, seen any examination of the country sufficiently accurate to justify a positive conclusion. We may, however, suggest the possibility of the course of the river having been changed by some convulsion, of which the following curious circumstance affords a little corroboration:—

"There is a superstitious belief prevalent at Bokhara, that on the eve of every new year, which they reckon from the vernal equinox, there must be an earthquake, and in order to be sure of it, they stick a knife in the ground over night, reckoning the commencement of the year from the moment that the knife falls from the vacillation of the earth."

The absence of streams, wells, and fountains, exposes the inhabitants of the Khanat to great inconvenience and suffering. Indeed, a prevalent and painful disease, of which we quote the description, is generally attributed to this cause:—

"*Rishia* is an illness of which the symptoms are, that some parts of the body swell and fester; the patient often feels acute pains in the bones, and constant inward heat, a parched mouth, and continual thirst. Occasionally, we may even say frequently, to the great relief of the patient, the ulcer bursts, and exposes to view a small flat worm, of a whitish colour, which is cautiously seized by means of two small things firmly tied together, and drawn out by little and little. In Bokhara there are expert persons who can discern from external signs when the worm is near the skin, which they pierce through by means of a small hook, and draw it out; but one must be very cautious during the operation not to break

the worm in two, or leave the head inside, else the worm escapes to another place, and—which is worse—often penetrates deeper into the body, and forms what is called the *hidden rishta*. In the latter case, the worm on being destroyed in the body creates inveterate swellings; and if the sinews are attacked, the feet and arms become contracted, and dry off, leaving the patient a cripple for life. The number of these worms is sometimes very considerable. I was told that an inhabitant of Khiva had no less than 120 of such worms at the same time. The natives attribute this illness to the unwholesome quality of the water in their *hauz*, or reservoirs of water; and in corroboration of the correctness of this fact, we may add that persons who drink water out of wells, and the running water in the canals, are exempt from that complaint.

The population of Bokhara is very diversified; but the Uzbeks appear to be the most numerous tribes. Their customs differ little from those of other nomadic races, but they have a peculiar game called *Kul-bari* of such a singular nature, that we extract the description:—

“A hundred or more riders assemble together, and having chosen one from their party, they send him to fetch a kid out of the flock belonging to the master whose guests they happen to be. The messenger, on fulfilling his errand, cuts the throat of the kid, and grasping it firmly with his right hand by the two hind legs, hastens to join the party. The latter, as soon as they espy him returning from a distance, press forward to meet him, and endeavour to wrest the slaughtered animal from his grasp. Whenever any one obtains the rare success of snatching away the whole carcass, or even only a limb or fragment of it, he sets off in his turn, pursued by such of his companions as are desirous of sharing the spoil. The game lasts until one of the party succeeds in carrying off a large slice of meat to his home, and in screening himself from further pursuit. The excitement of the game is carried to such an excess, that murders are not seldom committed. Custom, which has required in this instance the force of law, forbids the relations of the murdered to seek redress at the hands of the murderers, if it can be proved that the deceased was killed at the game of *kul-bari*. I have been told that even the Amir, when he visits Samarcand in autumn, takes part in these games, and is not offended if pushed by any one, or if he happens to receive a lash with a whip, as the latter can hardly be avoided at the first scramble for the slaughtered kid, because all the riders get jammed together, and then each with his *kanchik* deals blows right and left, endeavouring to clear the way for his horse.”

There are three tribes in Bokhara which Khanikoff is inclined to connect with the Gipsy race; they are horse-dealers and fortune-tellers, their women go unveiled, and have not the best of characters. They are regarded as inferior beings, and are not allowed to pitch their tents in the vicinity of an Uzbek encampment. The cities of Bokhara appear to be in a state of continuous decay. Samarcand, a name which prose and poetry have associated with wealth and greatness, has fallen into ruins, and contains nothing worthy of remark beyond the tomb of the mighty Timur:—

“The coffin of Amir Timur is placed in a high octagonal edifice, surmounted by an elevated dome. The interior consists of two apartments, of which the first may be said to represent the shrine of the great mosque, in which the sepulchral monument for Timur is raised. The floor is paved in white marble slabs, the walls ornamented with inscriptions from the Koran, and here and there the gilding is still in good preservation. In the centre of the second apartment, stands on a marble pedestal, surrounded by a grating also of marble, the monumental stone of Timur; having the form of a four-cornered truncated pyramid, three feet in height, from five to six in length, and is set upon its narrow end. The colour of the stone is dark green, verging on black; it is well polished. Nadir-Shah on taking possession of Samarcand, had the stone brought before him, in consequence of which it is now split in two. White marble slabs surround it, and it serves for tombstones for the family of Amir Timur. Under the apart-

ments we have just described, is a vault, into which if one has a wish to descend, one must crawl nearly on all fours. It contains the coffins of the persons alluded to, and the spot under which each lies buried is marked by a white marble slab with appropriate inscriptions on it.”

Bokhara is a cheerful looking city; but its chief beauty arises from the orchards and gardens with which it is surrounded. The mode of laying out the gardens is very similar to that practised by the ancient Egyptians; the following passage might almost seem a description of the picture of an Egyptian garden in the British Museum:—

“Every one who can afford to increase his garden, never fails to do so; there is a kind of ostentation attached to it, and as the silver poplar is the only tree which is allowed to grow there, which does not yield fruit, the least addition to a garden is calculated to increase its profits. These poplars are usually planted inside, and close to the mud walls, separating the garden from other properties, and as they attain a considerable height, and are very bushy, they screen the other productions of the garden from the unwholesome effects of the cold winds. A quadrangular pond is usually dug in the centre of the garden, from whence runnels are drawn off in all directions. Four principal paths, leading from the pond at right angles, are crossed by others, varying in number according to the extent of the garden. The intervals are under fruit-trees and shrubs, such as the vine, the pomegranate, the fig-tree, the apricot, the apple-tree, the pear-tree, the cherry-tree, and the *Sinjid*, or *Jegda*.”

Khanikoff asserts that though there are numerous shops in Bokhara, the trade of the place is but trifling, and that most of the shops are empty. There are three annual caravans to the Russian fairs, but the heavy expenses of transit over a difficult country, destitute of roads, greatly limit the commercial intercourse. He adds a hint which should not be neglected:—

“Manufacturers who work chiefly for the markets of Central Asia must also study more diligently the prevailing taste of the Asiatics. Thus, for instance, muslin turbans with gold borders at both ends, as they are manufactured with us, are more sought after than muslins brought from other quarters. The muslins of Glasgow, for example, which have birds represented on them, cannot be used by Mussulmans in making their namaz, for they represent the figure of a living creature. It was a lucky idea on the part of our Moscow manufacturers, who sent out last year checked turbans; for they not only pleased the Tajiks and the Uzbeks, but the Afghans also. Their quick sale shows how advantageous it is to study variety in saleable articles, suited to the wants and caprices of one's customers.”

The civil and religious administration of Bokhara is based on the Koran, and the city being regarded as invested with peculiar sanctity, the inhabitants are among the most bigoted of Mussulmans. Their fanaticism is increased by their having a university in which young men are trained to hereditary uselessness: their course of studies being strictly limited to the Koran, the commentaries, and the traditions, of course all novelties of science and all new discoveries in nature, are viewed with as much horror as by bigots nearer home. The monks and *kalanders*, the begging friars of Islam, lend their aid to strengthen the popular superstition, and are bitterly hostile to all strangers.

The present Amir, or ruler of Bokhara, is described as a crafty sanguinary tyrant. He has exterminated the Sipahis, or old feudal soldiers of the Khanat, with as little mercy as Mohammed Ali exhibited to the Beys of Egypt:

“Long did he act in secret; till at length, in the latter end of 1837, he declared himself openly. The Kush-beghi was banished, first to Karshi, then to Nur-Ata, from whence he was recalled to Bokhara, and thrown into the palace prison. His father-in-law, Ayaz, the topchi-bashi, was named Bey, as a recompense for the eminent services he had rendered the Amir on his accession to the throne, and appoint-

ed governor of Samarkand. Riches were likewise heaped on him; but he felt the approach of his downfall as soon as he learnt the fate of the Kush-beghi; nevertheless, as he could not openly defy the power of the Amir, on receiving an order to appear before him in Bokhara, he was forced immediately to attend the summons. But the Amir had too much cunning to do him any harm there. He quieted the fears of Ayaz, being aware that if the old man's suspicions were roused he might hide a part of his riches, or consign them over to his son, and thus frustrate him of the coveted wealth. He therefore received him very graciously, and on the eve of his return to Samarkand, bestowed on him a khalat, or dress of honour, of gold brocade, with a turban of the same stuff. A beautiful Argomak was also brought for him to mount on, richly caparisoned with gold trappings. The Amir himself came out, and helped him to vault into the saddle. Ayaz was frightened at this mark of condescension, and accordingly dismounted, and bowing low his head, said he felt he was culpable in the eyes of the Amir, and entreated that he might be instantly punished. Nasr-Ullah embraced him, thanked him for the former services he had rendered him, and with the subtle caresses of a snake, lulled the suspicions of the old man. Ayaz returned to Samarkand, and after receiving two most gracious answers from the Amir to his reports, he fondly hoped the storm was blown over, and that the chief of Bokhara had not included him in the disgrace of the Kush-beghi; but his illusions soon vanished; he was once more summoned to Bokhara, and thrown into the same prison with the Kush-beghi, where they were both put to death in the spring of 1840. From that period the Amir began to persecute the Sipahis without mercy. His hatred at first fell on the relations of the Kush-beghi; he seized on their property; banished several beyond the Amu-Dariya; many were executed; and when the necessity had ceased of screening his acts under the pretext of his aversion to the Kush-beghi and his party, Nasr-Ullah put to death or dismissed from the ranks whomsoever he pleased, without giving to any one an account of his acts.”

The fate of our countrymen, and their long suffering at Bokhara will give a melancholy interest to Khanikoff's account of the prisons:

“The palace of the Amir (*ark*), built on a mound (whether natural or artificial I cannot say,) having five or six sajenes in height, and about one verst and a-half in circuit. It has a square form, and contains about 20,000 square sajenes, or twenty-two tanaps. On this area are built the houses of the Amir, the Vizir, the Shikh-Aval, the Topchi-Bashi, the Mirza Deftardar, as well as the dwellings of the numerous retinue of the Amir and the above-named grandees; three mosques; likewise, the Ab-Khaneh, with some dark apartments to preserve water for the Amir during the summer heats, but which are more especially appropriated to state prisoners, when they happen to give offence to their master; such were, for instance, the Kush-beghi and Ayaz-bey. From hence, to the right of the entrance, a corridor leads into another prison, more dreadful than the first, called the *Kann-Khaneh*, a name which it has received from the swarms of ticks which infest the place, and are reared there on purpose to plague the wretched prisoners. I have been told that in the absence of the latter, some pounds of raw meat are thrown into the pit to keep the ticks alive. This institution of refined cruelty has probably given rise to the fable of the pit of scorpions, of which I have repeatedly heard accounts given at Orenburg. The Zindan, or Dungeon, is to the east of the Ark, with two compartments: the *Zindan-i-bala* (the upper dungeon), and the *Zindan-i-poin* (the lower dungeon). The former consists of several courts, with cells for the prisoners; the latter of a deep pit, at least three fathoms in depth, into which culprits are let down by ropes; food is lowered down to them in the same manner. The sepulchral dampness of the place in winter, as well as in summer, is said to be insupportable, according to the testimony of eye-witnesses. Twice a month the prisoners, chained in irons, are brought out of prison to the *rehistan*, where the Amir gives his judgment on those who are to be executed, and those who are to be set at liberty. Those of whom no mention is made, have their heads shaved, and are re-conducted to their former cells. This is only done with prisoners kept

in the first compartment. They generally go barefooted; and to form even a faint idea of the sufferings of those unhappy wretches, one must have seen them standing bare-footed on the snow, the thermometer of Reamur marking fifteen degrees below freezing point, waiting for hours together the appearance of the Commander of the Faithful."

From the latest accounts that have been received, it appears that the Amir has reduced the greater part of the ancient Transoxiana or Mawer-en-nahar, under his dominion, and that he is exerting himself to introduce principles of order and habits of obedience among the wild tribes of the Steppes.

The Life and Correspondence of Thomas Arnold, D.D., late Head Master of Rugby School.
By Arthur P. Stanley, M.A.

[Second Notice.]

Dr. Arnold's character was ardent and impetuous. The readiness with which he entertained doubts on any subject, however important, when they arose in his mind,—so that, as some one said of him, "he awoke every morning with the impression that everything was an open question,"—gave him a confidence in his opinions when once formed, that often startled his more wary friends. If, indeed, any one is entitled to be confident, it is he who never allows any fear of disturbing established dogmas, or breaking through the bounds of strict and tight-laced orthodoxy, to interfere with his pure and unmixed love of truth. With Dr. Arnold, this love amounted to a passion, which no suggestions of prudence, no fear of consequences, could ever restrain. "He did, indeed, yearn after truth and righteousness with yearnings that could hardly be uttered; and to hear of falsehood, to hear of injustice, pained him like a blow." Such is the testimony borne to him by one well capable of appreciating such a character,—Archdeacon Hare. In politics, Dr. Arnold was decidedly liberal; and the same pursuit of truth at all hazards which characterized him in other matters, was observable in his political opinions. Though a Liberal in the real sense of the term,—a Liberal in principle, and not merely in detail,—he yet was frequently to be found opposed to those with whom he would gladly have acted, but whom he could not conscientiously support. Like all men, he was liable to error; but there was this remarkable feature in his character, that in his pursuit and advocacy of the truth, he threw all regard for party to the winds. Most truly he said of himself, that if he had two necks, each party would hang him by one. The only occasion, however, in which he was brought into direct opposition to the "extreme section of the Liberal party," was in the management of the London University, of which he was appointed a Fellow in September, 1835. Here his conviction, that Christianity should be the basis and principle of all education in a Christian land,—which, whether rightly or wrongly, he held with all the force of his decided character,—led him to propose that "as a general rule, the candidates for the degree of B.A. shall pass an examination, either in one of the four Gospels or the Acts of the Apostles, in the original Greek, and also in Scripture History." His proposal was strongly objected to, and the resolution adopted was so much modified, that though he did not at once retire, he lost heart in his work, and finally withdrew from the Senate in November, 1838. Thus in London stigmatized as a bigot, in Oxford cried down as a latitudinarian, he incurred the fate which is the lot of all men who will think and act for themselves—to be trusted by no one. This feeling of want of sympathy expressed itself often in his letters:—"When I look round upon boys or men," he says in one of them, "there seems to me some one point or quality which distinguishes

really noble persons from ordinary ones; it is not religious feeling, it is not honesty or kindness, but it seems to me to be moral thoughtfulness, which is at once strengthening and softening and elevating—which makes a man love Christ instead of being a fanatic, and love truth without being cold or hard." A letter to Mr. Justice Coleridge well works out Arnold's opinion of the two divisions of the high party in the State, known as Conservatives and Tories. It was written in 1835:—

"It is ill answering your long and kind letter between nine and ten o'clock at night, when I am liable to be interrupted every moment by calls from my boys who are going home, and when I am going myself to start with a patriarchal party of seventeen souls at seven o'clock to-morrow for Westmoreland. I think that there runs through your letter, perhaps unconsciously, a constant assumption that the Conservative party is the orthodox one; a very natural assumption in the friends of an existing system, or, as I think, in any one who has not satisfied himself as I have, that Conservatism is always wrong; so thoroughly wrong in principle, that, even when the particular reform proposed may be by no means the best possible, yet it is good as a triumph over Conservatism—the said Conservatism being the worst extreme, according to both of Aristotle's definitions, first, as most opposed to the mean in itself, since man became corrupt; and, secondly, as being the evil that we are all most prone to—I myself being conservative in all my instincts, and only being otherwise by an effort of my reason or principle, as one overcomes all one's other bad propensities. I think Conservatism far worse than Toryism, if by Toryism be meant a fondness for monarchical, or even despotic government; for despotism may often further the advance of a nation, and a good dictatorship may be a very excellent thing, as I believe of Louis Philippe's government at this moment, thinking Guizot to be a great and good man who is looking steadily forward; but Conservatism always looks backwards, and therefore, under whatever form of government, I think it the enemy of all good. And if you ask me how I can act with the present Ministers, with many of whom I am far from sympathizing; I answer, that I would act with them against the Conservatives as Crammer and Ridley acted with Somerset and Northumberland and the Russells of that day, not as thinking them the best and wisest of men, but as men who were helping forward the cause of Reform against Conservatism, and who therefore were serving the cause of their country and of mankind, when Fisher and More and Tonstall, better men individually, would have grievously injured both. This I should say, even if I judged of the two parties as you do. . . . But I am running on unreasonably, and time is precious; my meaning is, that had I been a Conservative, I am quite sure that no act of mine would have ever been considered as going out of my way into politics; but on the other side, 'defendit numerus'; and that is called zeal for the Church, which in me is called political violence. We are all well, and I am marvellously untired by our five weeks' examination; but still I expect to rejoice in the mountains."

The universality of his sympathies, it seems, drew upon him the animadversion of his friends, as though he was neglecting the welfare of his school,—a charge certainly unfounded. Against this he defends himself in a letter to Mr. Justice Coleridge in 1836, the latter part of which incidentally notices two mighty ones of the "Lakers":—

"The whole thing makes me most earnest that we should soon meet, not to argue, but rather to feel the many points of true sympathy between us, and to get our notions of each other refreshed, so to speak, in all their totality. You get from me two or three letters a year; in these I cannot represent what is really my life's business and state of mind, for school affairs would not interest you, nor will the quiet scenes of mere family life bear description. I therefore write naturally of public matters, of questions of general interest; and I write upon them as I feel, that is, decidedly and deeply. But this produces a false impression upon your mind, as if these feelings occupied me predominantly, and you express a wish

that I would concentrate my energies upon the school, my own business. Why, you cannot surely think that Hawtrey or your brother Edward or any man in England does so more than I do? I should feel it the greatest possible reproach, if I were conscious of doing otherwise. But although a school, like a parish or any other occupation in which our business is to act morally upon our neighbours, affords in fact infinite employment, and no man can ever say that he has done all that he might do,—still in the common sense of the term, I can truly say, that I live for the school; that very pamphlet which I sent you was written almost entirely at Fox How, and my own employment here has been all of a kind to bear directly upon the school work; first Thucydides, and now the Roman History, and subjects more or less connected with the Scriptures, or else my Sermons. Undoubtedly, I do not wish my mind to feel less or to think less upon public matters; ere it does so, its powers must be paralyzed; and I am sure the more active my own mind is, and the more it works upon great moral and political points, the better for the school; not, of course, for the folly of proselytizing the boys, but because education is a dynamical, not a mechanical process, and the more powerful and vigorous the mind of the teacher, the more clearly and readily he can grasp things, the better fitted he is to cultivate the mind of another. And to this I find myself coming more and more; I care less and less for information, more and more for the pure exercise of the mind; for answering a question concisely and comprehensively, for showing a command of language, a delicacy of taste, and a comprehensiveness of thought, and power of combination. We had a most delightful winter at Fox How. . . . I went over to Keswick for one day, and called on Southey and saw him and his daughters Kate and Bertha. Southey is much altered from his heavy domestic trial, and perhaps from his constant occupations. He reads as he walks, which I told him I would not venture to do, though so much younger than he was; it is so constant a strain, that I do not wonder that his hair is grey. . . . What a great man your uncle was, that is, intellectually! for something I suppose must have been wanting to hinder us from calling him a great man ἀπλῶς. But where has he left his equal?"

Dr. Arnold's religious and theological views we cannot of course discuss at any length. Indeed, they entered so strikingly into every act and thought of his life, they formed so completely the leavening principle of his mind, that he could think on no subject apart from and uncoloured by religion. He was strongly opposed to the Romanizing party in Oxford, and on the highest and noblest grounds. The following letter to Mr. Stanley, his biographer, with its mixture of "Bagley Wood" with "high debate of Church and State" is singularly characteristic of the impetuous, but single-hearted writer:—

" As long as you read moderately and not voraciously, I can consent that your reading should even prevent your coming to Rugby; and I am glad that, by beginning in time, you will escape all excessive pressure at last. You will be rejoicing at the meeting of the scattered members of your society after the Long Vacation. I can well recall the same feeling, deeply associated in my mind with the October tints of the Nettlebed beech woods, through which my road to Oxford, from Kensington and Hampton, always lay. The separation had been long enough to make the meeting more than joyous, and some of my most delightful remembrances of Oxford and its neighbourhood are connected with the scenery of the later autumn; Bagley Wood in its golden decline, and the green of the meadows reviving for awhile under the influence of a Martinmas summer, and then fading finally off into its winter brown. Here our society is too busy, as well as too old, to enjoy in common, though we can work in common; but work after all is but half the man, and they who only work together do not truly live together. . . . I agree with — in a great deal, and so N— might ask as he does about Hampden and the Socinians, where I begin to disagree with him. Politically, I do not know that I do disagree as to any principle, and in sympathy with a man's mind in argument, it makes no difference whether he believes the exemplification

of your common principles to be found in this party or in that party; that is a mere question of fact, which we need not impanel a jury to try; meanwhile, we are agreed as to the law of the case. . . . But to supply the place of Conscience, with the *ἀρχαί* of Fanaticism on one hand and of Utilitarianism on the other,—on one side is the mere sign from heaven, craved by those who heeded not Heaven's first sign written within them,—on the other, it is the idea which, hardly hovering on the remotest outskirts of Christianity, readily flies off to the camp of Materialism and Atheism; the mere pared and plucked notion of 'good' exhibited by the word 'useful,' which seems to me the idea of 'good' robbed of its nobleness,—the sediment from which the filtered water has been assiduously separated. It were a strange world, if there were indeed in it no one *ἀρχαί* *ἐκτεκονικόν* *εἶδος* but that of the *ἐνυμφερων*; if *καλόν* were only *καλόν*, *ὅτι* *ἐνυμφερων*. But this is one of the peculiarities of the English mind; the Puritan and the Benthamite have an immense part of their nature in common; and thus the Christianity of the Puritan is coarse and fanatical;—he cannot relish what there is in it of beautiful or delicate or ideal. Men get embarrassed by the common cases of a misguided conscience; but a compass may be out of order as well as a conscience, and the needle may point due south if you hold a powerful magnet in that direction. Still the compass, generally speaking, is a sure and true guide, and so is the conscience; and you can trace the deranging influence on the latter quite as surely as on the former. Again, there is confusion in some men's minds, who say that, if we so exalt conscience, we make ourselves the paramount judges of all things, and so do not live by faith and obedience. But he who believes his conscience to be God's law, by obeying it obeys God. It is as much obedience, as it is obedience to follow the dictates of God's Spirit; and in every case of obedience to any law or guide whatsoever, there always must be one independent act of the mind pronouncing this one determining proposition, 'I ought to obey'; so that in obedience, as in every moral act, we are and must be the paramount judges, because we must ourselves decide on that very principle, 'that we ought to obey.' And as for Faith, there is again a confusion in the use of the term. It is not scriptural, but fanatical, to oppose faith to reason. Faith is properly opposed to sense, and is the listening to the dictates of the higher part of our mind, to which alone God speaks, rather than to the lower part of us, to which the world speaks. There is no end to the mischiefs done by that one very common and perfectly unscriptural mistake of opposing faith and reason, or whatever you choose to call the highest part of man's nature. And this you will find that the Scripture never does; and observing this cuts down at once all Pusey's nonsense about Rationalism; which, in order to be contrasted scripturally with faith, must mean the following some lower part of our nature, whether sensual or merely intellectual;—that is, some part which does not acknowledge God. But what he abuses as Rationalism is just what the Scripture commends as knowledge, judgment, understanding, and the like; that is, not the following a merely intellectual part of our nature, but the sovereign part;—that is, the moral reason acting under God, and using, so to speak, the telescope of faith for objects too distant for its naked eye to discover. And to this is opposed, in scriptural language, folly and idolatry and blindness, and other such terms of reproof. According to Pusey, the forty-fourth chapter of Isaiah is Rationalism, and the man who bowed down to the stock of a tree was a humble man, who did not inquire, but believe. But if Isaiah be right, and speaks the words of God, then Pusey, and the man who bowed down to the stock of a tree, should learn that God is not served by folly."

We cannot extract more on this particular head of Dr. Arnold's views. Almost every letter in the two volumes bears more or less on the subject, and our readers will be able, if they are not tempted (which we earnestly hope they may be) to read the volumes themselves, to judge what would be his views as to the "great" questions which are now agitating the Church of England—with what contempt he would have looked on all the discussions now so rife as to

surplices, copes, offertories, candles, bowings, and the like.

In a letter to Mr. Carlyle, he suggests a scheme to benefit the poor which never came into action, but which might have proved of much practical advantage:—

"I have been trying, hitherto with no success, to form a Society, the object of which should be to collect information as to every point in the condition of the poor throughout the kingdom, and to call public attention to it by every possible means, whether by the press or by yearly or quarterly meetings. And as I am most anxious to secure the co-operation of good men of all parties, it seems to me a necessary condition that the Society should broach no theories, and propose no remedies; that it should simply collect information, and rouse the attention of the country to the infinite importance of the subject. You know full well that wisdom in the higher sense and practical knowledge are rarely found in the same man; and, if any theory be started, which contains something not suited to practice, all the so-called practical men cry out against the folly of all theories, and conclude themselves, and lead the vulgar to the conclusion, that, because one particular remedy has been prescribed ignorantly, no remedy is needed, or at least, none is practicable. I have no sort of desire to push my proposal about a Society, and would gladly be guided by wiser men as to what is best to be done. But I cannot, I am sure, be mistaken as to this, that the state of society in England at this moment was never yet paralleled in history; and though I have no stake in the country as far as property is concerned, yet I have a wife and a large family of children; and I do not wish to lose, either for them or myself, all those thousand ties, so noble and so sacred and so dear, which bind us to our country, as she was and as she is, with all her imperfections and difficulties. If you think that anything can be done, which could interest any other persons on the subject, I should be delighted to give aid in any possible manner to the extent of my abilities."

In 1841, he was appointed to the chair of Regius Professor of Modern History in Oxford, an appointment which filled him with unfeigned delight, and of which his introductory lectures were unfortunately the only fruit. The delivery of his lectures, forming almost an epoch in Oxford, is thus described by his biographer:—

"On the 2nd of December, he entered on his professorial duties, by delivering his Inaugural Lecture. His school work not permitting him to be absent more than one whole day, he left Rugby with Mrs. Arnold, very early in the morning, and, occupying himself from the time it became light in looking over the school exercises, reached Oxford at noon. The day had been looked forward to with eager expectation, and the usual lecture-rooms in the Clarendon Buildings being unable to contain the crowds that, to the number of four or five hundred, flocked to hear him, the 'Theatre' was used for the occasion; and there, its whole area and lower galleries entirely filled, the Professor rose from his place, amidst the highest University authorities in their official seats, and in that clear manly voice, which so long retained its hold on the memory of those who heard it, began, amidst deep silence, the opening words of his Inaugural Lecture. * * * The recollections of that time will not easily pass away from the memory of his audience. There are many too, who will love to recall his more general life in the place; the elastic step and open countenance, which made his appearance so conspicuous in the streets and halls of Oxford; the frankness and cordiality with which he met the welcome of his friends and pupils; the anxiety to return the courtesies with which he was received both by old and young; the calm and dignified abstinence from all controversial or personal topics; the interest of the meeting at which, within the walls of their common college, he became for the first time personally acquainted with that remarkable man, whose name had been so long identified in his mind with the theological opinions of which he regarded Oxford as the centre. Nor will they forget the delight with which, on his daily return from Oriel Chapel to his house in Beaumont Street, he lingered in passing the magnificent buildings of the Radcliffe Square, glittering

with the brightness of the winter morning; the enthusiasm with which, when his day's work was over, he called his children or his pupils around him, and, with the ordnance map in his hand, set out to explore the haunts of his early youth, unvisited now for more than twenty years; but still in their minutest details the streams, the copes, the solitary rock by Bagley Wood, the heights of Shotover, the broken field behind Ferry Hinksey, with its several glimpses of the distant towers and spires—remembered with the freshness of yesterday."

A few months after, and Arnold was dead. He was carried off suddenly, but not unprepared, by the same heart disease which killed his father. The Sunday which closed the scholastic half-year closed the life of perhaps the ablest schoolmaster whom England ever produced. His work seemed indeed done. His Saturday night's journal wound up, as it were prophetically, all his earthly concerns; he had completed his task, and awaited his summons to depart, which was not long delayed. He retired to rest in perfect health on Saturday; by eight o'clock a.m. on the Sunday he was dead. "What that Sunday was in Rugby," says Mr. Stanley, "it is hard fully to represent." "The incredulity, the bewilderment, the agitated inquiries for every detail, the blank more awful than sorrow," were not confined to Rugby. All who knew, or had even heard of him, felt his loss, as though a father and a guide had been taken from their head. In Church matters especially, all who took Arnold's views, either wholly or partially, felt as though the blank caused by his removal could never be filled up. Time has, of course, diminished these regrets and fears. Others exist to carry on his work; but we may look long in vain to find his like.

In the mean time, we have in Mr. Stanley's admirable biography "*monumentum are perennius*:" and it may be indeed questioned whether his views are not likely to exercise greater influence now he is removed hence; now that party feeling and prejudice can no more influence men's estimate of him. Certain we are, that these letters must advance the cause of civil and religious liberty, of which Dr. Arnold was an unflinching advocate.

Australia, from Port Macquarie to Moreton Bay; with Description of the Natives, their Manners and Customs, &c. By Clement Hodgkinson. Boone.

A work written to show the present state of the colony, and the extent to which her resources will be available for the production of articles of export. The author defends the north-eastern part of the territory from the charge of aridity and barrenness, and speculates on its becoming ultimately "chequered with plantations of rice, tobacco, indigo, cotton, sugar-cane, and mulberry-trees." As he was resident in the country for five years, and engaged either in surveying, for the government, a district beyond the limits of location, or in farming pursuits, his opinions are entitled to much weight. The geological details and local descriptions prove the industry and enterprise of the writer, and add value to his inquiry into the causes of the depression from which the colony has so long and severely suffered. The following, in Mr. Hodgkinson's opinion, have been mainly instrumental:—

"The speculative mania which pervaded all classes of the community; and the absurd ideas entertained respecting the value of land and town allotments, &c. which induced the deluded colonists to pay, for solitary wastes which they had never seen, sums so large, that they are now astonished at their former folly, since the present reaction has aroused them from their golden dreams. This rage for speculation was very much encouraged by the loose un-English system of transacting business in New

South Wales; long extended credit at high interest was readily accorded on the slightest security, whilst the directors of several of the colonial banks mutually afforded to each other, and their friends, the most unwarrantable accommodation in discounting bills, to the exclusion of many bills much safer than their own, but drawn and accepted by parties unconnected with bank directors. The disgraceful circumstances which have been brought to light in the late investigations into the affairs of two colonial banks which have now closed, are, in themselves, quite sufficient to prove the great share the banks have had in producing the present monetary crisis. As to the land mania, it was in a great measure produced by the system of selling Crown lands by public auction, and thereby exciting an unfortunate spirit of competition, which drained the colonists of that money which ought to have been employed in the more legitimate objects of colonization, such as agriculture, vineyards, &c. Old settlers and newly arrived emigrants, merchants, and mechanics, all hastened to outbid each other at the Government sales by auction, and purchased at exorbitant rates sections and allotments of land which they had probably never seen, and which were often hundreds of miles from Sydney, and in situations such, that if they had only listened to the dictates of common sense, they must have perceived that they were often paying for their land ten times more than it was worth. When the Government thus set the example of exciting competition for land, the same spirit of course prevailed in all private land sales; innumerable plans of fine towns and cities, (at least on paper,) divided into red and green allotments, with reserves for market-places, churches, parks, cemeteries, &c., were prominently displayed in every corner of the auctioneers' sale-rooms in Sydney; and it mattered little where the sites for these projected towns had been chosen, whether one hundred or five hundred miles from Sydney, the allotments were certain to be eagerly bought up. * * Another cause of the present involved state of affairs, has been the boundless extravagance of all classes of the community, and the consequent enormous importation, in proportion to the population of New South Wales, of mere articles of luxury, such as carriages, jewellery, plate, the most expensive furniture, rare wines and liquors, &c. To this may be added the great consumption of imported articles, which the colony was perfectly able to produce itself, such as hams, bacon, butter, cheese, beef, flour, wine, fruits, pickles, &c., &c. The fall in the price of wool, and the cessation in the emigration of persons of capital to the Australian colonies materially assisted also in producing the present depression."

The distress amongst the flock-masters was owing to other and less creditable causes; and as the account is somewhat curious we are induced to insert it:—

"The grand cause of the ruin of so many of the settlers has been the depreciation in the value of stock; sheep having fallen, in a very short time, from upwards of 2*l.* per head to about half a crown, and cattle from 9*l.* or 10*l.* to 1*l.* Of course those who bought sheep and cattle at these high prices were ruined by their rapid and unprecedented depreciation in value. The cause of sheep having originally attained so high a value was the high price of Australian wool in the London market, and the great influx of emigrants of capital from Great Britain, who all eagerly purchased flocks of sheep at any price, under the idea of making rapid fortunes. When however, from various causes, the emigration of persons of capital was diverted from New South Wales to other colonies, the surplus sheep found no buyers, for the number of wethers required by the butchers, &c. was a mere trifle compared with the supply. The flock-masters, being thus unable to sell their surplus sheep, became panic-struck; for most of them were more or less embarrassed by engagements contracted with the supposed certainty of being able to meet them by a sale of some of their sheep; moreover, as the wool scarcely paid the expenses of its production, leaving the increase for profit only, the notion became prevalent that sheep were all but valueless. The price of sheep therefore fell to two or three shillings per head; and to increase the mischief, those merchants and other persons who had been so forward in giving credit to the supposed

prosperous sheep-owners of New South Wales, now pounced upon their flocks at this critical moment, and the sheriff was constantly engaged in selling sheep by execution all over the colony. At some of these forced sales sheep have been sold for cash, for less than one shilling per head, scarcely half the value of a skin! Matters continued in this bad state until Mr. Frederick Ebsworth of Sydney suggested the plan of slaughtering and boiling down sheep, for their skins and tallow. The feasibility of this suggestion was immediately felt by most of the flock-masters in the colony; numerous experiments were made as soon as possible at various places, and the result was extremely satisfactory, as the quality of the tallow was very good, and the quantity yielded, by sheep in average condition, was quite equal to the most sanguine expectations."

The following statements are noteworthy as symbols both of the moral and physical states of the colony:—

"There is a signal want in Australia, even among the higher classes, of that just appreciation of the beauties of nature, and that innate taste in taking advantage of them, to enhance the picturesque effect of their neatly arranged dwelling-houses which, according to Washington Irving, characterize the English nation from the peer to the peasant. There are some places in New South Wales, few and far between, where considerable taste has been displayed in the arrangement of the grounds, but in general the *ne plus ultra* of colonial landscape gardening is a square patch of land, laid out in straight walks, and surrounded by hideous palings, whilst no flowers, or even culinary vegetables, enliven the dwellings of the labouring classes, unless some stray melon or pumpkin sends its long shoots round their huts. * * There are many inexplicable causes which produce wonderful diversity of climate. Thus, if I were called upon to judge from analogy, I should have no hesitation in saying that Australia was a most unhealthy country for Europeans; for the estuaries of its rivers, its creeks, salt-water inlets and mud flats, abound in mangroves, which have been considered by the best authorities the chief cause of the unequalled unhealthiness of the rivers on the coast of Western Africa. Again, there are in Australia an infinite number of tea-tree morasses, and reedy swamps, covered with stagnant water and rank vegetation; and the changes in the temperature, between day and night, are probably greater in Australia than in any other country, and are also very sudden. Nevertheless the experience of upwards of half a century has now ascertained that no country in the world is more exempt from all that class of disorders which originate in impure air, and deleterious miasma, than Australia. Indeed, when I informed some persons in Sydney a few years ago, that ague was prevalent at the lower part of the MacLeay river, I was listened to with great incredulity, it seemed to them so totally incompatible with the climate of the colony; yet the reader will not wonder that cases of ague should occur at the MacLeay, for beside the mangrove mud-flats at its mouth, there are, on its banks, at least 60,000 acres of stagnant swamps covered with high reeds and water; and the decomposition constantly going on in the dense mass of vegetation on the alluvial lands, must also evolve a great quantity of noxious gases. Notwithstanding these obvious causes of impure exhalations, and the greater heat of the climate, the ague at the MacLeay river is much milder than in the fenny counties of England; the cold fit occurs every other day, but is seldom so severe as to prevent a man from attending to his daily avocations. Change of air, and sulphate of quinine, remove the ague directly, but it is liable to return by fresh exposure to the causes which produced it. Although I have resided upwards of four years at the MacLeay river, I have never known there a single instance in which ague has been attended, even in bad constitutions, with serious symptoms of an inflammatory or typhoidal character."

Here is a description of the kind of life led by the squatters beyond the limits of location:—

"In those districts near the coast, many of the squatters are retired officers, who are often married men, with large families; of course, wherever female society extends its influence, the bush-life of Australia is deprived of much of its roughness, and

the agréments of civilized life are in some measure preserved by small social reunions, music, boating parties, races, &c. In the inland districts the squatters are, however, generally unmarried, most of them being young men of education and of good connections at home. The life they lead is of the most wild and reckless character, their only amusements in the country being kangaroo hunting, with the occasional excitement of a hurdle race, or steeple chase. They generally travel down once a year to Sydney, to sell their wool, and purchase supplies for the ensuing year. During their brief residence in town they participate largely in all its gaieties, to make amends for their long banishment in the wilderness. The squatters of New South Wales are, on the whole, a strange race. In general they submit, from mere indolence or carelessness, to great privations, especially with regard to the comforts of their table; although a little trouble and instruction to their servants, ought to supply it with abundance of vegetables, poultry of all descriptions, &c. &c., without any expense. I have myself known many squatters, who during the prosperous times possessed large incomes from their wool, and yet, through mere carelessness, were content to live on an unvarying course of salt beef, damper, and tea; although, during their annual visits to Sydney, they lived in the most extravagant style, at first-rate hotels, keeping two or three horses at livery stables, and drinking Châteaux-Margot, Hock, and Champagne. The following is a specimen of the daily life of the generality of the squatters at their stations in the bush. On awaking in the morning the squatter lights his pipe, and smokes while his breakfast is being prepared. This consists of a huge heap of mutton chops, or a piece of salt beef, and damper, which he washes down with an ocean of strong green tea, literally saturated with coarse brown sugar. After breakfasting, the squatter again lights his pipe, mounts his horse, and sallies forth on his daily avocations among his sheep or cattle. The short well blackened pipe, his constant companion, is frequently replenished in the course of the day; his dinner is the counterpart of his breakfast, viz., mutton-chops, or salt junk, damper, and tea viscid from excessive sweetness, which would create nausea in an English stomach, but to which our hushman has gradually habituated himself. In the evening the squatter smokes, reads or writes, until supper, when another vast mass of meat and tea is again brought forward; and then after smoking one more pipe, he goes to bed. This rough and comfortless life has been supposed to be unavoidable in the distant districts beyond the limits of location, but such is not the fact. I have often visited the stations of squatters who possessed but one manservant to perform the multifarious duties of cook, gardener, &c., and yet their slab-cottages were kept in the most scrupulous state of neatness and cleanliness, whilst their tables were constantly supplied with fowls, geese, &c., butter, cream, all kinds of vegetables, home brewed beer, and properly made bread."

Mr. Hodgkinson gives a somewhat elaborate account of Australian field sports, and of the aborigines. On the immediate banks of the MacLeay river, he says, there are no fewer than six distinct tribes; besides several others near the sources of the river among the mountains. All these tribes are able to get an abundance of food with very little trouble, and add the reptile kingdom to the ordinary resources:

"All the larger varieties of snakes are eaten by them, but they will never touch one that has been killed by a white man. Guanas, and a short thick kind of lizard, called the Dew-lizard, are also much relished by them. However repugnant the idea of eating reptiles seems to us, it is from a real liking for their flesh that the Australian savages eat them, and not from the great scarcity of better food; for I have, on two or three occasions, known them when employed by me in assisting at the cattle musters, pulling maize, &c., and well fed on bread and beef, carefully preserve any snake they chanced to kill, and cook and eat it at the next fire. Induced by curiosity, I have on several occasions tasted the flesh of every one of the reptiles just mentioned, and although nothing but the most extreme hunger could make me conquer my aversion, so as to dine

on them, I must nevertheless own, that not one of them possessed any disagreeable taste. The flesh of the black snake in particular was rich and juicy, somewhat resembling in flavour the flesh of a sucking pig, whilst that of the guana was whiter and drier, and more approximated to fowl. Besides, these savages are not the only race of men who eat reptiles, for the common water-snake of England (*Natrix torquata*), is eaten in several parts of the continent of Europe; and every one knows that the guana of the West Indies, (a much more hideous animal, by-the-by, than the guana of Australia) is considered very good eating by the planters in some of the islands."

Mr. Hodgkinson gives several examples of intelligence on the part of the Australian savages, and maintains that their mental powers have been greatly underrated. In everything requiring the exercise of mechanical ingenuity or dexterity, he describes them as being apt scholars.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Lawyers in Love; or, Passages from the Life of a Chancery Barrister, by the Author of 'Cavendish.' 3 vols.—Who can wonder that writers "of every degree" should betake themselves to translating sentimental novels from the French, metaphysical tales from the German, high-sounding romances from the Italian, or homely sketches of everyday life from the Swedish, when such works as 'The Lawyers in Love' issue from the home manufactory? The earlier part is not much amiss, so far as it concerns the fortunes of a reckless Chancery barrister, who runs off with a young lady of rank. The description of the "whirlwind" crop of disasters which succeeds the "wind-sowing" of his first mad step, is not ill done, though common-place. But the butterfly bride is laid in her grave early in the first volume: then the writer shuffles the cards, and we have to begin a new deal. In the remainder five-sixths of the work, the only redeeming passage is the adventure of a scape-grace, who fancies he can take up Law as a joke, practise without study, and win causes by "bullying judges," and whose bravado ends in discomfiture. The rest is all trash, in style and incident; a compound of the recklessness of youth, the every-day morality of middle age, and the drivell of senility. Such books are enough to make the best-natured of the Honeywood race of critics turn Croakers.

The Betrothed Lovers; a Milanese Story of the Seventeenth Century. With the Column of Infamy, by Alessandro Manzoni.—To analyze 'I Promessi Sposi' of the celebrated Italian poet is a pleasure which at the present time we are not permitted to indulge in; since among all students of *la dolce favella* that tale has for years been widely circulated, and already given to us in English among the Standard Novels. Though one of the many foreign children of the Scott movement, which set the imaginative writers of the continent upon rummaging their charter chests and family chronicles, we have heard readers, especially those tintured with certain prevailing modern opinions, contend for its being placed above Sir Walter's historical romances, as more spiritual and high-toned. With regard to all such comparisons, let those who would exalt either Sig. Manzoni, or M. Hugo in right of his 'Notre Dame,' or M. de Vigny for his 'Cinq Mars,' above the romancer of Abbotsford, recollect that whereas each author cited has ceased, as though exhausted after producing one solitary specimen, he who showed them the way was active and successful long after they, his juniors, had left the field! This, however, is digression—more interesting, possibly, to the critical tribe who love, from time to time, to look round them to adjust and to make comparative estimates, than to the mere novel reader. We can promise the latter, that he will not be disposed to puzzle his brains with such delicate dilemmas, when once he has begun with 'The Betrothed Lovers.' The interest is great: and in the translation before us, the beautiful Italian of Manzoni seems well rendered. Of 'The Column of Infamy' some account was given [*Athenæum*, No. 805] on the first appearance of the original work.

Note on the Historical Results deducible from Recent Discoveries in Afghanistan, by H. J. Prinsep,

Esq.—The object of the author is to collect all that is known of the history of the Bactrian kingdom founded by the successors of Alexander. He gives plates of the coins of the Greek monarchs and their successors, which have been found at various times in Afghanistan, and copies of two inscriptions recently discovered in that country, for the purpose of stimulating the curiosity and industry of the learned. Nearly all the information of a substantial character in the volume has been already published by Mr. James Prinsep and Professor Wilson.

Annual Report of the Asiatic Society of Paris.—[Rapport, &c. par M. J. Mohl.]—This report is chiefly remarkable for a severe and not undeserved attack on the English government, the East India Company, and our trio universities, for withholding patronage from the cultivation of oriental literature; their neglect is contrasted with the public support given to such studies in France, Prussia, Russia, and even Denmark, and Sweden.

Pudet hæc opprobria nobis
Et dici potuisse et non potuisse refelli.

Essays, Second Series, by R. W. Emerson.—As a pupil in the transcendental school of continental logic, Mr. Emerson heretofore acquiesced in the declaration of philosophical ignorance which is the result of the system—and having shut out the material universe by an impenetrable veil, nothing was left to him but to wonder. There remained no power of analysis, but that of his own sensations; nothing to produce and combine but his individual emotions, feelings, and ideas; he was therefore content to deliver from time to time the "words of his own mind," and this without respect to opinion, whether his own or other people's, whether inconsistent with themselves or with general experience. Enough for him that he expressed the feeling of the moment. But in this new series, the flag of conciliation is displayed; much account is made of all manner of conventions; in a word, the tone is conservative, and manifests a tendency to become more so. Something of the old heaven however, as might have been expected, still clings about him; of the old dissatisfaction with whatever is, has been, or will be: that standard of mind which assumes a superiority over all that comes before it.

Life of Baber, Emperor of Hindostan, by R. M. Caldecott, Esq.—This book is made up of extracts from Erskine's translation of Baber's Memoirs, and some comments of the editor which add but little information.

Notes on Northern Africa, by W. B. Hodgson. This pamphlet contains an ethnographic view of what are supposed to be the indigenous tribes of Northern Africa, illustrated by vocabularies of their languages.

Literary Extracts from English and other Works; collected during half a Century; together with some original matter, by J. Poynder, 2 vols.—Some choice excerpts may in this way be preserved, and others contrasted or compared, and thus be made to yield suggestions not otherwise attainable—but fourteen hundred pages of this sort of desultory matter can be, we fear, neither pleasant nor profitable reading. There are many passages marked "Miscellaneous," which occasionally contain curious philological speculations, that must be taken, we suppose, as the "original matter" indicated in the title-page.

Corn, Currency, and Consols.—A table showing at one view the fluctuations from 1790 to 1840.

Hazlitt's Holiday Library; Legends of Rubenzahl, and other Tales from the German of Musæus.—Here we have a genuine holiday book! offering alike to old and young an escape from the every-day world around them, to the world of which their forefathers dreamed. Even the Freiligraths of these stirring times, who feel themselves bound by conscience to political enterprise, will be none the worse after the brawls and heat of their day's work, for a freshening ramble through the moonlight where "the fairy foot hath been." This we can assert from experience. When disheartened by misconception, and wearied by the endless struggle in which we are engaged with what is mean, and false, and mischievous, in literature, we have found solace in the magic cabinet of King Dermot, with its sensitive busts which enabled the monarch to distinguish his true or false visitors—refreshing music in the chorus of "Singing Apples" who make such an important

melody in the story of the "Augel helverde"!—Then should we become tired of the Italian enchantments of Ariosto and Carlo Gozzi—it is but touching the reins of the Hippogriff, and we are in the land where "Il y a voit une fois un Roy et une Reine"—profoundly interested in the loves of 'La belle Hermine et le Prince Colibri,' and thrilled with impatience and suspense, lest the Prince Courtebottle should fail in setting free the heart of the Princess Zibeline from its imprisonment in the Ice Mountain. Long live Fairy tales, and their tellers!—not forgetting Ludwig Tieck (whose court-service we fear may have shut him for ever out of Elf-Land)—still less Mary Howitt, who, now that the Swedish novels are disposed of, should be thinking of gathering up her own scattered treasures, or giving us new ones.—Meanwhile, these German stories have "an air and grace" of their own. None of them, perchance, is so original as 'Undine'—or so pathetic in its meaning as the 'Runeberg.' To compensate us, we have large as life the Three Sisters sold by their avaricious father to the Bear, the Eagle, and the Fish; and the deeds of Rubenzahl in the Riesengebirge, as tricky as the gambols of English Will-o'-the-wisp, or Irish Pooka. Of all the sprites we recollect, he is the most entertaining because the most capricious: a little revengeful, but very forgiving—misery as well as generous—enjoying the terrors as well as the folly of mortals—yet encouraging the timid with bold thoughts, and filling the wallet of the poor with exchangeable (not fairy) gold. To the tale of his franks which may startle the timorous and perplex the steady-going, is annexed the more soothing legend of 'The Hen with Golden Eggs'—with its account of wealth and splendour, worth a thousand last chapters of many a so-called picture of private life, and lesson of morality. So that we cry 'Oyez' lustily, to draw the attention of Christmas readers to this book:—and then, back to less agreeable tasks.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—On Saturday next, JANUARY 4, will appear the First Number for 1845 of the *Railway Chronicle*.

List of New Books.—Arnold's Life and Correspondence, edited by Stanley, 4th edit. 2 vols. 8vo. 24s. cl.—Arnold's Christian Life, its Hopes, &c., 3rd edit. 8vo. 12s. cl.—Whately's Essays on the Writings of St. Paul, 5th edit. enlarged, 8vo. 12s. bds.—The Ideal of a Christian Church, by the Rev. W. G. Ward, M.A. 2nd edit. 8vo. 14s. cl.—Outlines of Man's True Interest, by the Rev. T. C. Hoone, 6s. 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—A Thought on God's Word for each Day in the Month, by the Rev. E. Pulton, B.D., 1s. cl.—The Popes and the Gospels, by J. J. Maurel, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.—Legends and Records, by the Rev. C. B. Taylor, M.A. 3rd edit. illustrated, crown 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Jane Bragg's Birds and Insects, with Illustrations, demy 16mo. 3s. 6d. cl. gilt.—The Value of Knowledge and of Habits of Observation, a Book for the Young, by W. L. Bellows, 18mo. 1s. 6d.—Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation, 2nd edit. post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—Diaries and Correspondence of the Earl of Malmesbury, Vols. III. and IV. 8vo. 3s. bds.—Rambles and Thoughts, by T. S. Tatford, 2 vols. post 8vo. 18s. cl.—Hints on Life, and How to Rise in Society, by C. B. C. Amiens, 6s. 8vo. 5s. cl.—The East India Register and Army List for 1845, 12mo. 10s. 6d. cl.—The Vaudois, a Tour to the Valleys of Piedmont in 1844, by E. Henderson, D.D. 1 vol. post 8vo. 6s. 6d.—Hampton Court, or the Prophecy Fulfilled, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—Chambers's Miscellany of Useful and Entertaining Tracts, Vol. I. 6s. 8vo. 1s. cl.—The Fortunes of Frank Fairfield, by M. H. Barker, Esq., the "Old Sailor," royal 18mo. 3s. 6d. cl.—Sandford and Merton, with illustrations, by Gilbert, demy 16mo. 2s. 6d. cl.—Memoirs of the Life and Works of Thomas Fuller, D.D., by the Rev. A. T. Russell, B.C.L. 6s. 8vo. 6s. cl.—Christian Doctrine and Practice in the Second Century, 6s. 8vo. 3s. 6d. cl.—Beauties of the Opera, with portraits and coloured borders, super royal 8vo. 31s. 6d. cl.—Fraits of Private Life, 8vo. 12s. cl.—The Duties of Judge Advocates, by Capt. R. M. Hughes, post 8vo. 7s. cl.—Thiers's Historical Works, Fullarton & Co.'s edition, Part I. royal 8vo. 2s. 6d.—Thiers's French Revolution, Popular Library, Part II. medium 8vo. 2s. 6d. 6d.—Recollections of Military Service in 1813-5, by Thomas Morris, Sergeant, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. cl.—Mount Sorel, by the Author of 'Two Old Men's Tales,' 8vo. 3s. 6d.—Pompey, by Samuel Mullins, 23 Illustrations, 8vo. 12s. bds.—Fisher's Young Man's Best Companion, new edit. improved, 12mo. 3s. cl.—Rodenhurst, or the Church and the Manor, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d. bds.—The Works of G. P. R. James, Esq. Vol. III., 'The Huguenot,' 8vo. 8s. cl.—Parley's Tales about Ireland, square 16mo. 4s. cl.—Lingard's History of England, 6s. 8vo. 5s. cl.—Bickersteth's Guide to the Prophecies, 7th edit. 6s. 8vo. 6s. cl.—Bickersteth's Family Prayers, 7th edit. Vol. XXXVII. Christian Family Library, 6s. 5s. cl.—Messmerian, or the New School of Art, 12mo. 2s. 6d.—Christmas Roses, and other Tales, chiefly from the German, with 4 pictures, tinted 3s. 6d. coloured 4s. 6d. cl.—Summer's Fairy Tales, 12 pictures, by Cope and others, square crown, 4s. 6d. tinted, 8s. coloured, cl.

A FEW WORDS BY WAY OF COMMENT ON MISS MARTINEAU'S STATEMENT.

WE agree with Miss Martineau that "it is important to society to know whether Mesmerism is true." But that we may be enabled even to inquire into the subject, much more to answer that question, we must know what is included under the term Mesmerism. There are not, perhaps, half a dozen persons—not two—who would agree in a definition of the facts and principles which are comprised under the term, and we are unacquainted with any standard authority to which we might appeal. Mesmerists themselves are so little agreed, either as to the phenomena or the theory of their science, that we could not select any individual exponent without subjecting ourselves to a charge of misrepresentation. Should we go back to Mesmer, and rely on the facts, theory, and practice of the man who has given the subject a name, we should be told by his modern followers that his facts were misrepresentations, his theory an absurd hypothesis, and his practice that of an impostor. When Dupotet, in his palmy days, published his 'Introduction,' we rejoiced over it [Nos. 555-6], because we were thus enabled to consider the subject without questioning the common sense of parties *non coram iudice*—or fighting with Shadows that were eternally shifting. From that hour to this, the Shadows have gone on shifting; and Dupotet has since been denounced by the Mesmerists themselves. Under these circumstances, we shall be excused if we confine our observations altogether to Miss Martineau's Statement.

In considering this, it is of the first consequence that we should carefully separate the phenomena to which Miss Martineau deposes as coming within her personal experience, from all speculative reasoning, inference, assumption, and, above all, from phenomena, so to call them, which rest on the agency of others. Let us then formally set forth those to which Miss Martineau testifies in her own person.

Under the influence of Mesmerism, she says, "I became sensible of an extraordinary appearance, most unexpected, and wholly unlike anything I had ever conceived of. Something seemed to diffuse itself through the atmosphere—not like smoke, nor steam, nor haze,—but most like a clear twilight, closing in from the windows and down from the ceiling,—and in which one object after another melted away, till scarcely anything was left visible before my wide-open eyes. First, the outlines of all objects were blurred; then a bust, standing on a pedestal in a strong light, melted quite away; then the opposite bust; then the table with its gay cover; then the floor, and the ceiling, till one small picture, high up on the opposite wall, only remained visible,—like a patch of atmospheric light. * * * Wherever I glanced, all outlines were dressed in this beautiful light; and so they have been, at every *séance*, without exception, to this day;—though the appearance has rather given way to drowsiness since I left off opiates entirely. This appearance continued during the remaining twenty minutes before the gentlemen were obliged to leave me. The other effects produced were, first, heat, oppression, and sickness, and, for a few hours after, disordered stomach; followed, in the course of the evening, by a feeling of lightness and relief, in which I thought I could hardly be mistaken."

This (with some subsequent vague and mysterious allusions to a state of intellectual transcendentalism and beatitude, occasionally attained) is absolutely all! There are other phenomena, but not any that are essentially different. Now, not to waste words on the speculative possibility of doing anything with, or inducing any feelings in, a patient whose bodily strength was exhausted by long suffering, and whose nervous system was weakened by long confinement and a "desperate" habit of seeking relief by opiates—let us admit the statement in its full force and integrity: and to what does it amount? Why, there is not, we sincerely believe, a sceptic or a scorner in the whole College of Physicians, who would not agree that such phenomena, or like phenomena, or more extraordinary phenomena, are of every-day occurrence. Yet just such as these, with a helping imagination and a halting reason, have served as foundation to one half of the delusions that, from age to age, have troubled the past world, and in our time helped the homeopaths and hydro-

paths. All these several sciences, as they are called, rest on arguments of the same class—phenomena, well known to science, but which (such is the miserable education at our schools and colleges,) are first made known to the ignorant public in connexion with hasty generalizations, and thus open a profitable trade to every charlatan who is content to make a gain of public delusions.

Abandoning, then, the ground of her own experiences (amounting, as our readers have seen they do, to absolutely nothing), Miss Martineau's next step is, after the established fashion in such case made and provided, a vast stride indeed into the vague world of conjecture, inference, and assumption. I was ill, says Miss Martineau, I am well,—and I have been cured "by mesmeric treatment alone." The reader will see, at a glance, that, if true, this would be a phenomenon strictly within the province of medical science; and that Miss Martineau, therefore, would be an incompetent witness. What are the conditions required, in a person who offers evidence with regard to complicated phenomena involving the functions both of the body and the mind? The first (honesty, sincerity, and such moral qualities being assumed) is intellectual competency. This competency is not a general competency, but *special*, with reference to the particular subject. It necessarily presupposes a special education. The opinion of Sir John Herschel would be received as insufficient evidence on a delicate question of animal or vegetable physiology; and Mr. Faraday is not the man whose speculations would be considered of convincing weight in astronomy or geography. Ignorant people indeed talk familiarly of "the evidence of their senses;" but the uneducated senses are the most delusive of witnesses—as is known to every inquirer, and may be proved by a thousand familiar examples. If this be true of simple phenomena, how much more emphatically may it be pronounced true with reference to the complicated phenomena of organization, that embrace the operations of the mind as well as of the body! It is obvious, therefore, that, with reference to the question under consideration, we are not wanting in respect to Miss Martineau when we object to her as an insufficient witness.

We must further observe, that not only is Miss Martineau an incompetent witness, but that, as the case stands at present on her showing, it is impossible even for medical science to offer an opinion on the subject. It appears to us, that, before an inquiry can be entered on as to the specific effects of any agent in the cure of a specific disease, all parties must be agreed as to the nature and character of the disease, and the fact of the cure. Yet these simple, but needful, data cannot be collected from Miss Martineau's statement. All that can be thence deduced is, that she was ill,—and is well, or thinks so; but there is not one tittle of evidence to lead even to the inference that she was cured (if cured) by "mesmeric means," or that Mesmerism had anything to do with the matter. The hasty generalization, which here ascribes the relation of cause and effect to phenomena that happen to be coincident, is, and has ever been, the bane of science. Miss Martineau was mesmerized,—felt better,—is better; therefore, says Miss Martineau, "I have been cured by Mesmerism." Why this is Tenterden steeple over again! It is the established argument on which all quackery rests. A man is ill with fever,—that is a fact; a homeopathic doctor gives him the millionth part of a grain of extract of belladonna,—that is another fact; the man gets well,—a third fact; and forthwith follows Miss Martineau's *non sequitur*—that the man got well because he had taken the millionth part of the grain of extract of belladonna!

Here, then, we may take leave of the case of Miss Martineau—which, in truth, presents so little that is peculiar to Mesmerism that we do not think the most earnest advocates of the science will care to allude to it; and will now turn to the case which she has recorded on observation, and to phenomena, before which her own experiences shrink into utter insignificance. We allude, of course, to the case of her maid-servant J. Now, were we at once to decline all inquiry into this part of the 'Statement,' we should be fully justified, on the grounds before urged, the insufficiency of the testimony and the incompetence of the observer. But Miss Martineau has a name

potential,—and such a case, stated on such seeming authority, cannot be neutralized by any general denial.

The question in this case, be it observed, then, is of a wholly different character from that which we have been discussing. We lay aside all the minor phenomena,—many of which are really too trifling to be seriously considered,—and come at once to the case of *clairvoyance*. Therein all the pretensions of Mesmerism are brought to issue; and it is made clear either that Mesmerism, to the fullest extent claimed for it, is true, or that Miss Martineau has been egregiously imposed on. The old question presents itself, at starting,—is it more probable that a poor ignorant servant-girl like J., stimulated by a desire for notoriety—a love of the marvellous—a wish to gratify her mistress and her mistress's friend, and to be flattered in return—should lend herself to help out the delusion under which, unhappily, Miss Martineau laboured,—or that the known laws of Nature should be suspended, for no purpose, good, bad, or indifferent? This initial difficulty is not to be got rid of:—we must dispose of the question as one of evidence, before we can even entertain it as one of medical phenomenon.

On this important point, Miss Martineau admits that evidence to character can have no weight with the public. "I am aware," she says, "that personal confidence, such as I feel for this girl, cannot be transferred to any other mind by testimony;" and we will further add, that if it could, it would be wise in the public to remember, that there never has been a current delusion which has not found numbers numberless of what are called "people of good character," ready and eager to lend themselves to it, and testify to its truth.

Miss Martineau, however, is naturally anxious to place J. in a respectable position before the public; and endeavours, therefore, by elaborate circumstantial evidence, to show that the girl *could not have known* from other sources what she announced as having seen in her mesmeric sleep. The whole letter of the 20th of November is a narrative of events relating to J.—ending with the grand *séance* of the 15th of October, on which occasion she professes to have *seen*, as in a "vision," a wreck, which it afterwards appeared had taken place some time before, between *Elsinore* and *Gottenberg*—seen, as she emphatically stated, both "place and people." But this is not all! J. must have *heard*, as well as seen, what passed in Denmark!—a curious phenomenon, to which Miss Martineau does not advert,—for she deposes that one of the crew "fell through the rigging," and was killed *before* the storm,—some days, *three* at least, *before* "the queer boat," which she saw in her vision, went off to the wreck. J. therefore could not have known this, even had she been on board the queer boat itself, unless some one *had told her*.

The facts collected from the elaborate statement of Miss Martineau are—that a report of the loss of this vessel reached Tynemouth on the 14th of October,—and that J. was too much disturbed "by the report to think of being mesmerized" as usual, on that evening. This was unfortunate; for, as afterwards appears, a mesmeric *séance* would have put an end to J.'s disturbance and all other people's anxiety. It is strange, too, as well as unfortunate; for, although the prolonged suspense should naturally have added to the anxiety, yet J. was able, willing, and ready, notwithstanding, for her *séance* the following evening, (*came up to demand it*) when the mesmeric revelation was altogether supererogatory,—the facts becoming known through the ordinary channels within a few minutes afterwards. On the 14th, indeed, J. and her Mesmerist so little anticipated the "vision" for which they seemingly prepared so carefully the next morning, that the girl proposed to go to Shields, like any other short-sighted mortal, to learn particulars. She was, however, persuaded to stay at home. But the owner of the lost vessel started immediately in quest of information; and as the vessel and a part of the crew, possibly all, belonged to Tynemouth, it is evident that the town must have been all astir with anxious inquirers. In proof of this, we are told that, on the morning of the 15th, there were all sorts of flying reports, though none "like what afterwards proved to be the truth." On that memorable morning, J.'s aunt, Mrs. A., who "lives," Miss Martineau tells us, "in a

cottage at the bottom of our garden," and had a son on board the wrecked vessel, walked over to Shields to make inquiries. Miss Martineau and her friend went for a long drive, and took J. with them; and "she was with us," says Miss Martineau, "in another direction, till tea-time, and then, on our return, there were no tidings." Again, to bring us still nearer to the critical moment, Miss Martineau observes, "while we were at tea, no person in the place had any means of knowing about the wreck!" Now we have the most perfect conviction that no tidings had reached our invalid in her retirement; but that no tidings could have reached Tynemouth,—that all its busy, stirring, anxious population were, like Miss Martineau, dependent for information on the return of J.'s aunt, does pass all credulity. But, taking even this strange view of the subject,—as J.'s aunt, it is admitted, was telling all about it below, immediately after tea, it follows that she could not have been a great way off while they were at tea. Now Miss Martineau acknowledges (strange after all the seeming precautions of the day!) that "while we were at tea, J. went out on an errand!"—Let us here briefly recapitulate the facts in Miss Martineau's own words, omitting all that are not essential—"While we were at tea, J. went out on an errand"—"on her return she came straight up to us for her sance"—"J. was presently asleep"—her Mesmerist then asked her, "Can you tell us about the wreck?" J. replied, "Oh, yes, they are all safe; * my aunt is below, telling them all about it."

And this is a case of clairvoyance!—this an "inexplicable" phenomenon, in which Miss Martineau and her friend cannot, after patient investigation, "discover any chink through which deception could have crept in!" Is it to be believed, we ask again, that all Tynemouth had no means, throughout the day, of obtaining information on a subject of so much general interest, but must wait the return of J.'s aunt? or, even admitting this, is it to be believed that J.'s aunt did not breathe a whisper on the road—did not pause to gossip with any human being—did not break silence to satisfy the anxious inquiries of fathers, mothers, brothers, or sisters—did not even stop at the door of her own cottage, situate, be it remembered, at the bottom of Miss Martineau's garden, to speak one word to her anxious family—but came laden with her consolatory burthen of news direct to Miss Martineau? Must each one and all of the probabilities—nay, almost certainties—involved in the opposite propositions be unnaturally discarded, for the purpose of bolstering up this case of clairvoyance? A very small portion indeed of natural clairvoyance is needed, to show that, if the news could have reached Tynemouth by any other channel—or if Mrs. A. did stop, though but for five minutes, at her own cottage—or spoke to any human being on her way,—then it follows that as J. was at that time "out on an errand" there is "a chink" broad enough to drive a coach and four through!

There are other inconsistencies, quite as transparent, in the whole narrative which Miss Martineau gives of her mesmeric relations with J.; but we must conclude. It would be idle to follow her general reasoning: however earnest or admirable, it has no special reference to Mesmerism, and if it had, the Mesmeric phenomena are not proved. Miss Martineau, indeed, altogether overlooks the great fact, that the amount and character of the evidence required to prove a thing depends altogether on the nature of the thing to be proved. If we were to admit that men of science are bound to examine what are called the phenomena of Mesmerism, because they are vouched for on respectable authority—then it would follow that the intelligence of every age, instead of helping the world in its progress, must devote all its energies to the exposure of the prevailing humbug of the hour. There is not a superstition or a folly which the world has got rid of, that would not, in such case, have a claim to its reconsideration—Miss Martineau, indeed, intimates as much. Witnesses, thousands against tens, including kings, queens, bishops, judges, physicians, surgeons, and "sergeant surgeons," might be adduced in favour of witchcraft, and the efficacy of the king's touch as a cure for scrofula:—are these questions to be reconsidered? In our own day, a man of fine genius, and of undoubted integrity, raved himself into an early grave in preaching up a delusion about unknown tongues:—here

again are we to call fresh evidence? Yet Irving might have said, with Miss Martineau,—"It is remarkable, that those who have patiently examined should be most firmly convinced of its truth." That such was, and is, a fact is not at all remarkable; inasmuch as to waste one moment on any such inquiry is, itself, proof how strong is the imaginative, and how weak the reasoning, faculty. An inquirer of this class has, by the very inquiry, given "earnest" that he will become a believer. To require, as Miss Martineau does, that the inquirer's faith should precede the proof, instead of being its irresistible consequence, is to reverse the whole orderly process of reasoning. It is a proposition expressly made for the Thaumaturge and charlatan; and the mere statement of it is sufficient to expose to others, and might convince herself of, the determined prejudice under which she sat down to write. It is under the absolutism of such "foregone conclusions," that, to use her own words "the very senses become false informers and the very faculties traitors." If, as she further says, "the signs and wonders of science" can be made available "only to those who believed before," then it follows, as the simplest logical proposition, that they reside only in the imagination of the believer, and not in the science itself. Let Miss Martineau be assured that the man of science is not a seeker after novelties—a lover of the marvellous, or the mysterious. He is a calm observer—who collects phenomena which have been soberly noted by himself or other competent persons, adding cautiously one to another, until he is enabled to deduce from the whole certain general laws. Such is the progress of science; its path is clear, open, and straightforward. It appeals not to the ignorant, but to the informed,—not to the imagination, but to the reason. It does not say, with Miss Martineau, that the philosophic inquirer should approach the subject with "simple faith," but bids him come to it with doubt, hesitation, and disbelief: and we shall conclude by repeating the summary of opinions which we expressed in 1838,—and which Miss Martineau's statement, as well as all that has occurred elsewhere, has only tended to strengthen:—"Animal magnetism is a complex of many particulars,—first, of physiological statements, some of which, when stripped of their exaggerations, are curious, and may, perhaps, on further investigation, lead to an extension of our knowledge concerning the nervous system,—secondly, of a theory concerning the cause of these phenomena,—and lastly, of certain psychological statements. If the partisans of this boasted science had confined themselves to detailing their experiments concerning the first of these particulars, in a spirit of philosophy, with modesty and doubt, they would not have encountered hostility from any party; and even if their discovery had turned out a mare's nest, as we think it will, they would have lost no credit by the transaction. But coupling, as they have, their imputed facts with a theory, which every tyro in philosophy may perceive to be as yet no more than a rash and hasty generalization from a few imperfect observations,—and moreover asking public credit for their psychological mysteries, which carry refutation on the very announcement,—we hold that every scientific man who regards his own character should keep aloof from them, and refrain from sanctioning, by direct participation in their proceedings, a transaction so likely to lead to mischievous consequences. If there exist sensible men who have a curiosity or a doubt as to the nature of the whole affair, it would be easy for them to conduct their experiments apart, and keep the results to themselves, until they shall have reduced them within the natural bounds of science, and rendered them intelligible and definite; but as yet, we hold that the magnetists have shown no tokens of possessing a philosophical spirit, a cool judgment, or a critical knowledge of the nature of truth and its relations, which should remove them from the class of the Cagliostros, the Katerfelts, or the emperors of all the conjurors,—or justify men of real science in affording them the co-operation they call for."

At the last hour, we have received the 'Medical Report' of Mr. Greenhow, the brother-in-law and professional attendant on Miss Martineau.* The publication, he states, has been forced on him by the

* We may here mention that Miss Martineau's Statement is about to be republished, by Mr. Moxon.

misapprehension of the medical journals as to the nature of the case and the treatment pursued.—so that, as we have asserted, even scientific men were none the wiser for 'The Statement.' Such a 'Report' comes not within our jurisdiction, and must be a sealed book to all but the profession. We may, however, extract from it the conclusions at which Mr. Greenhow arrives:—

"Knowing well that no symptoms of malignant disease of the affected organ existed, I always believed that a time would arrive when my patient would be relieved from most of her distressing symptoms, and released from her long continued confinement. * * * She never willingly listened to my suggestions of the probability of such prospective events, and seemed always best satisfied with anything approaching to an admission that she must ever remain a secluded invalid. This state of mind, perhaps, may be considered as an additional symptom of the morbid influence, over the nervous system, of the class of diseases in which this case must be included. During the last year or two, in common with many of the friends of Miss M., I had frequent opportunities of observing the increased ease and freedom with which she moved about her sitting-room; and my conviction became confirmed, that the time was approaching when she would resume her habits of exercise in the open air. Oftener than once I have made use of the somewhat strong expression, that some day, probably before long, Miss M. would take up her bed and walk. In the history of this case it is probable that the advocates of Mesmerism will find reasons and arguments in support of their opinions. But the experienced practitioner, carefully distinguishing the *post hoc* from the *propter hoc*, will have little difficulty in bringing the whole into harmony with the well-established laws of human physiology. As regards the pathology of the case, he will conclude that the condition in December is but the natural sequel of progressive improvement begun in, or antecedent to, the month of April; and as regards the relief from the distressing nervous symptoms connected therewith, that the time had arrived when a new and powerful stimulus only was required, to enable the enthusiastic mind of my patient to shake them off."

We must further observe, that Mr. Greenhow strictly confines himself to a report on the nature and character of the disease, from which Miss Martineau suffered, and the small phenomena which accompanied her recovery. He does not even advert to J.—she is neither named nor alluded to; so that not an additional ray of light presents itself, to help us to fathom this dark mystery. To us this silence speaks trumpet-tongued.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

A paragraph in the *Times* of Monday last, translated from the *National*, which latter quotes from a Berlin correspondent, apprises us, on specious authority, that the Prussian Ambassador to this kingdom, Chevalier Bunsen, has been appointed Minister-Director of Religions Worship and Public Instruction, under the Constitution promised by Frederic William to his subjects. With this, as a political affair, the *Athenæum* has of course no concern; moreover we feel little desire to poison the fountains of pure Literature with that bitter infection, party-spirit,—which has its appropriate reservoirs daily filled and daily disembodying their venomous waters for the use of those who relish such beverage. But at the above report, viewed in its literary aspect alone, we must express our combined gratification and regret,—gratification that a man so able and so anxious to promote the sacred cause of enlightenment should be placed where he could aid it best,—regret that he should be removed from England, whose advance foreign Ambassadors (unlike him) as seldom wish to promote in matters intellectual as political. Such a man will have both ardent friends and foes: malevolence follows an illustrious character no less surely than his shadow when the sun shines on his brow, and will no less surely than this shadow become darker the brighter the effulgence about him. Thus, M. Bunsen is pronounced a "bigotted personage and a pietist" by his Berlin detractor; a charge with which its companion, that he "imported a constitution from England" (into despotic Prussia!) seems rather irreconcilable. Again we take leave, in the name of the

British Literary Commonwealth, to bid M. Bunsen, if the intelligence of his prospective elevation be true, a gratified but regretful farewell.

The paper-manufacturers of London and other great towns of the kingdom, are combining, previously to the meeting of Parliament, to organize a joint application to the Legislature for relief from the Excise duty. A variety of fiscal arguments are put forth in support of the object; and other considerations, moving thereto, point, naturally enough, to the interests of the manufacturers themselves. There is no harm in this; and the effort has our sympathy on higher grounds—which the speakers at the several meetings of the manufacturers have not omitted to put forward, too. As a direct tax on knowledge, we desire to see a reduction of the duty on paper.—Referring to one of the more indirect restraints on the communication of knowledge, we may remind our readers that, some time ago, the corporation of German booksellers of Leipzig addressed a petition to the German Diet, praying that body to bring into as prompt execution as possible the resolution adopted by the assembly in 1842—to take general measures for the protection of literary property in all the States of Germany. The Saxon Minister for Foreign Affairs has just communicated to the corporation, in answer, that the Diet has already entered upon the consideration of the subject in question.

Never was there weather worse calculated for the exhibition of a Panorama than ours at present: never was there panorama better timed to light up the fogs of Cranbourne Alley corner than the 'Eruption of Vesuvius,' done by Mr. Barford, with his usual happiness in seizing the picturesque points of the scene, and his usual success in rendering them. The contrast betwixt volcano-light, moonlight, and torch-light, in all their several gradations, is very felicitous; need we add, that Earth has few such theatres for the exhibition of Nature's marvels, as the Bay of Naples?

From Munich, we learn that the head of Schwanthaler's colossal statue of Bavaria was, on the 14th inst., withdrawn from the cast, in the presence of the King, his family, court, and an enthusiastic assemblage of the literary, scientific, and artistic men of the capital. So vast are the dimensions of this head—the statue, our readers will remember, being sixty-eight feet in height—that during the preparations for casting, twenty-five workmen laboured, at their ease, in the huge vessel which was to contain it. At the moment of its appearance, innumerable Bengal candles were suddenly lighted, bringing it into strong relief; and a chorus of 300 members of the Philharmonic Society poured forth a hymn, written for the occasion by the Baron de Poissel,—which was taken up, before its close, by the whole excited body of spectators.—From the same capital, we hear of the death of Francis de Destouches, celebrated in Germany for his religious music—the friend of Mozart, Weber, and Schiller—and composer of the music to the latter's *Camp of Wallenstein*.—News, too, have arrived from Hamburg of the decease of the celebrated Hebrew physician, Jacob Mayer Gerson, a native of Copenhagen:—and of unusual honours paid to his memory.

A painful instance of artistic susceptibility has, according to the *Revue de Paris*, just occurred in the French capital. Signor Jesi, the Florentine engraver,—the first proof of whose engraving of Raphael's Leo X. obtained for him the title of Corresponding Member of the Institute, and the decoration of the Legion of Honour,—came recently to Paris, to complete his *chef-d'œuvre*, and print his proofs,—which business was accomplished a few weeks ago. A wealthy printseller of — has been long in negotiation with Signor Jesi for the purchase of the proofs; and after the manner of purchasers, sought at last to depreciate the work he was about to purchase, by assuring the sensitive artist that his proofs and plate had received some injury. There would have been nothing in a vulgar trading stratagem like this to shock a man of the world; but Signor Jesi's world was his art, and his dreams of fame as well as fortune had taken this work for their foundation. Next day he was found by his friends in a state of mental alienation,—having attempted suicide by dashing his head against a marble table. At present, the unfortunate artist is in a *maison de santé*; and his friends are watching for a moment of calm, to make him under-

stand the motives of the merchant by whose disparagement his reason has been so strangely disturbed.

Among the remains of antiquity, which are fast vanishing before the spirit of local improvement,—yet can scarcely reach an oblivion more complete than they have already attained,—we may mention the approaching demolition of Bonner Hall, the ancient residence of Bishop Bonner; the materials of which were, this week, sold, by order of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, to clear the site for Victoria Park. Nothing more than the mere dry bones of the old ecclesiastical palace have as yet presented themselves to observation; the external walls inclosing now a public-house and four other houses, all whose interiors have been submitted to the "effacing fingers" of modern architectural decoration. It is hoped, however, that the work of demolition on the building may yet yield some memorial of its ancient dignity.

A discovery has been made in the Bodleian library of a complete manuscript translation into Arabic, of Galen's great work on Anatomy,—containing the six books which had not hitherto reached us, and were supposed to be irrecoverably lost.

The Paris Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres has filled up the five vacancies which the current year has occasioned in the list of its corresponding members, by the election of three French and two foreign candidates. The Frenchmen chosen are Dr. Lautard, of Marseilles; M. de Cadavène, at Constantinople; and M. de la Plaine, at Sisteron; the strangers—Colonel Rawlinson, the English Consul at Bagdad, and the Rev. Father Secchi, at Rome.—The Académie Française has unanimously appointed M. Patin to the office held by the late Charles Nodier, and elected our countryman, Mr. Faraday, a foreign associate, in place of the late Dr. Dalton. The candidates named by the committee were M. Jacobi, and Mr. Faraday; but although the latter stood second on the list of recommendations, he was elected by a majority of thirteen,—the votes being for Mr. Faraday thirty-four, for Mr. Jacobi twenty-one.

The Academy of St. Petersburg has received communications from the intrepid naturalist Middendorff,—said to be of great scientific interest, and announcing some remarkable discoveries on the shores of the Frozen Ocean.

We noticed, a fortnight ago, a step taken towards the creation of a feeling for the Arts in Norway, by the opening, at Christiania, of an exhibition of pictures,—the first in that city. We have now to record another move in the same direction. Hitherto, no singers have been attached to the theatre of that capital; and an opera performance has, consequently, been a rare event, contingent on the visits of foreign artists. The municipality of the city has just granted to the theatre a liberal annual subsidy, with a view to its weekly performance of one or more operas; and the management has engaged a regular lyric corps of Germans, Swedes, and Danes.—At Florence, charity and pleasure have been combining in a remarkable manner, to repair as far as possible the ravages occasioned by the recent inundations; and balls, concerts, lotteries, lyric and dramatic representations have been so successful in the cause, that, save for the irreparable losses sustained by commerce, it is said that the disaster will leave no traces of the misery which it threatened among the population.

We have often remarked, as a significant feature of the times, on the kind of services which the genius of commemoration has, at length, found time to seek out, amid the beneficent suggestions of an extended peace. Times of war are not favourable to the growth of a public conscience; and it is not a little pleasant to see how the heart of nations is inclining to many of those still small whispers which, uttered by the mere utilities, were long drowned in the clamour of the trumpet and the tumult of the drum. It is not many years since the idea of national festivals and marble monuments in honour of the potato would have seemed, to tastes vitiated by the glare and tinsel of what was then called glory, the very sublime of bathos—nor could any herb so unclassical have been expected to outgrow the laurel in the public estimation. We find a continental notice or two on the subject, which may be worth quoting. We are not eminently a commemorating nation, ourselves—but in case we should find time, by and bye, after we have provided for some matters more pressing, to

give the public heart an occasional holiday, it may be well, if only as notes *pour servir*, to keep account of the direction which popular festivity is taking elsewhere. Several of the German states (taking the hint from Goethe,—see *Athen. ante*, No. 356) have instituted feasts in honour of the introduction of the potato; and the anniversary of its importation has just been held as a jubilee in Bavaria. At Mengerschwaike, near Munich, a festival was observed on the occasion—in which dishes of the poor man's especial root, variously dressed, had the place of honour on the table;—while the bust of Sir Francis Drake, crowned with garlands of oak, and presented to the commune, for the occasion, by its sculptor Schwanthaler, occupied the centre of the hall. In France, a monument is about to be erected to Parmentier, commemorating its introduction into that country. It may appear to our readers, that the honour paid to the memory of Drake was really due to Raleigh; but it is probable that the Germans are literally correct. The first colonists, sent out by Raleigh, were disheartened when Drake touched at Virginia, and he consented to bring them home. Lane, the governor, who is believed to have brought with him the first tobacco, may, and probably did, bring the first potato; if so, though indebted to the enterprise of Raleigh for the discovery, it was Drake's ship that actually introduced the first root.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

GREAT ATTRACTION.—DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK, WILL BE SHORTLY CLOSED. THE TWO PICTURES now exhibiting represent the Interior of the Abbey Church of St. Dunst. at Rouen; and an Exterior View of the Cathedral of Notre Dame at Paris. Both Pictures are painted by M. Renoux, and exhibit various novel effects of light and shade.—Open from Ten till Four.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. One of the brilliant Novelties is CHILDREN'S CHIRO-STATOPE, to which may be added Subjects in Nature and Art for the PROTEOSCOPE. THE PHYSIOSCOPE. The First Exhibition of a Series of beautiful DISSOLVING VIEWS. On the Evenings of Tuesdays and Thursdays Mr. C. E. HORN lectures on the MUSIC OF DIFFERENT NATIONS. Dr. RYAN'S and Professor RACHHOFFNER'S varied LECTURES daily. Dr. RYAN also lectures on the Evenings of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. All these Lectures abound in interesting Experiments. SUBMARINE EXPLORATIONS by means of the DIVING BELL and DIVER. The HYDRO-ELECTRIC MACHINE. Admission 1s., Schools Half-Price.—A new Edition of the Catalogue, price 1s.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—Dec. 23.—R. I. Murchison, Esq., President, in the chair.—Four new members were elected. The reading of extracts from Mr. Schomburgk's report was resumed and concluded. As it would be impossible by a short abstract to do justice to Mr. Schomburgk's communication, we shall confine ourselves to the results. The general map of British Guayana, constructed by the traveller, is based upon the following observations:—The determination of the latitude of 174 different points by 4,824 altitudes of heavenly bodies. The determination of hour angles for meridional distances, and the rate of the chronometers for 223 different stations, rest upon 3,501 altitudes of the sun or stars, (besides which, about 1,500 lunar distances were taken, making together 12,125 astronomical observations). The meteorology of the region in all its branches was particularly attended to; the registered observations of the barometer and thermometer alone, amount to 6,692. Notwithstanding the great difficulty of conveying collections of natural history over such a country as that traversed by Mr. Schomburgk, and the frequent loss of objects collected with great pains, Mr. Schomburgk has deposited in the British Museum, 2,500 specimens of dried plants, 100 specimens of woods, dried fruits, a flower and young leaf of the Victoria Regia, and several other botanical specimens preserved in spirits, a collection of bird-skins, upwards of 160 specimens of fishes in spirits, a geological collection, and an ethnological collection. The Royal College of Surgeons has been presented with some skulls, a perfect skeleton, and a number of plaster casts. The model room of the Admiralty has received a collection of woods; the Royal Garden at Kew several living plants; and presents of curiosities from Guayana have been made to different scientific societies and institutions. During his journeys, Mr. Schomburgk did not neglect the subject of terrestrial magnetism. Thus, whenever he had an opportunity, he vibrated a pair of Hansteen's needles; this he did at seventeen stations, extending north and south, from the 8th to the 1st parallel north of the geographical equator; and from the 56th to the 62nd meridian west of

Greenwich. The magnetic inclination, and particularly the declination, were ascertained in many instances.

LINNEAN SOCIETY.—Dec. 17.—R. Brown, Esq., in the chair.—A paper was read from Mr. Hogg, containing criticisms on a recent work, by M. Laurent, of Toulon, on the Hydrea and Sponges of fresh waters.—Dr. Lankester exhibited a specimen of a fungus, apparently the *Agaricus inornatus*, from the external membrane of the pileus of which, a second pileus, with its gills uppermost, was developed. The second pileus was immediately over the stipes, and seemed to result from an extension of the growth of that organ, carrying up with it through the external membrane of the first pileus the internal or gill-producing membrane.—A specimen of the flowers, fruit, and inner bark of the Lace-bark tree, was presented by Sir W. J. Hooker. The leaves of this plant almost always fall off in drying, except they are gathered when young.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.—Dec. 11.—Prof. Bell, President, in the chair.—A paper, by the Rev. J. B. Reade, 'On Animals of the Chalk still found in a recent state in the Stomachs of Oysters,' was read. Mr. Reade stated, that a consideration of the well-known ciliary currents in the fringe of the oyster, induced him to examine the contents of the stomach, under the expectation of finding some minute forms of infusoria; which, in the absence of locomotive power, compensated by the contrivance just alluded to, might reasonably be expected to form the food of the creature. His expectations were fulfilled. In the stomach of every oyster examined by him he found myriads of living monads; the vibrio also in great abundance and activity, and swarms of a conglomerated and citrated living organism, to which he proposed to give the name of *Voleux ostreare*. But the most remarkable circumstance was the presence of other infusoria, having silicious lorice, belonging to the family of the Baccillaria, and similar to those which, in the fossil state, constitute the chief bulk of the chalk. Having thus established the identity of the present infusoria, which form the food of oysters, with the fossils of the chalk, he next proceeded to examine the contents of the fossil oysters of the Kimmeridge clay, and in these, as well as in the surrounding clay, he also found abundance of similar fossils. The inferences drawn from these observations were: 1st, That the ciliary movements of oysters, and, from analogy, those of other bivalves, are the means by which these creatures are supplied with food, consisting of minute infusoria, and polythalamia; which food, from the absence of sand and other extraneous bodies, they evidently have a power of selecting; and, 2ndly, That many of these infusoria, being similar to those found in a fossil state in the chalk and other secondary formations, supply that link in the great geological chain of organized beings formerly supposed to be wanting between the cretaceous and antecedent series and the series of subsequent formations.

ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Dec. 11.—Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm, President, in the chair.—Eight members were elected. Two papers were read:

1. 'On the Natives of Puget Sound, the Straits of Juan de Fuca and the Gulph of Georgia, but more particularly the Chenooks, the Shimsheans, and the Pilbellas,' by W. Stoddard.

2. 'On the Language of the Oregon Territory,' by Prof. Latham. The Chenooks inhabit the north side of the Columbia river. They are of slender form, short stature and effeminate features. They pierce the ears and the septum of the nose, and flatten the head; bury their dead in canoes, and live principally on salmon. The Shimsheans number about 1200, and inhabit the north-west coast of America. They are a shade lighter than the New Zealanders, and the women particularly fair. The girls wear a piece of bone, pin formed, through the lower lip, which on their marriage is removed for one of oval shape and of large size. Several rings are worn on their fingers, and one in the septum of the nose, and bracelets round the wrists. The hair is neatly plaited into a tail, and the eyebrows are trimmed with precision. They burn their dead, and as a mourning rite blacken their faces and cut off their hair. Of sea-weed and the inner bark of the hemlock they

make cakes. The Pilbellas are divided into three villages. They are robust and well made. The dead bodies of the chiefs lie in state for two days covered with a white shirt. The face is painted vermilion, and the head covered with white down. A natural cave is the sepulchre of this tribe. The natives of Fraser's River propagate a species of the wolf-dog which periodically produce a crop of long white hair, which is manufactured into blankets. They live in permanent houses of cedar wood. Appended to the paper were short Shimshean and Pilbella vocabularies. The languages dealt with by Prof. Latham were those from Russian America down to New California, which he considers amount to nineteen, and are mutually intelligible.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

THUR. Zoological Society, 3 P.M.
FRI. Botanical Society, 8.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

DRURY LANE.—Mr. Bunn has a strong penchant for opera, but not for pantomime. A pantomime puts him out of the way. By some unaccountable process, it creates, according to his bills, "a great expense and difficulty" in performing—what, forsooth?—The Daughter of St. Mark!—in combination—"with so elaborate an entertainment as a pantomime!" Now, the said opera seria is at present playing for the twenty-third time, and the cost of it is a "foregone conclusion;" the singers engaged are so for the season, and there is no extra "expense or difficulty" in its performance at all. But, poor thing! it has, notwithstanding, to bear all the faults of the pantomime, and to be chargeable with all the "difficulty and expense" of the latter. And truly, if there be neither "difficulty" nor "expense" now in hearing and seeing the opera of 'St. Mark's Daughter'—if both have, once for all, been shuffled on to the hydra shoulders of the too patient audience, nevertheless there are great, "very great expense and difficulty" in getting up a good pantomime well. The Harlequinade, called 'Puck's Pantomime, or Harlequin and Robinson Crusoe,' produced on Thursday night, is neither good in itself nor well got up. It opens with an author in distress for a subject. Puck suggests several, by means of tableaux, such as Cinderella, the Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood—but these are too old: Robinson Crusoe is at length chosen, as being—new! The drama then commences—better, much better than it continues. Robinson selecting from the contents of the wreck the more useful articles of the cargo, and throwing into the deep such rubbish as "British Brandy" and "American State Stock" is sufficiently amusing. The subsequent visitations from the Carribee Indians, his flirtations with the Princess Tooralooma, the picnic, and the *cuisine* in Crusoe's hut, are sadly dull affairs. The wrecked vessel is at length transmuted into "Waterman 1, for London Bridge, fare 4d.," and the characters are also transformed, Harlequin being enacted by Mr. Wieland; Clown by Mr. T. Matthews; Pantaloon, Mr. Howell; Columbine, Miss Carson. Here the bill promised much: there we read of jokes intended, but we looked in vain on the stage for jokes performed. None of the movements led to anything; the transformations were either unmeaning or poor. The metamorphosis of the Insolvent Debtors' Prison into Baths and Wash-houses for the Labouring Classes, was the only thing of significance; and yet there were wanting the hearty spirit of fun, and sympathy with the subject. Towards the conclusion of the pantomime, an attempt was made at the poetical. In a stone quarry scene, statues and groups are found included in blocks, which, being sawed asunder, give up their tenants—a device miserably executed. Art and Commerce then contrive to rebuild the Royal Exchange, the interior of which is presented, with a tableau exhibiting the ceremony of Her Majesty's christening the national edifice. We suspect that the pantomime has been put together with reference to old properties, as a means of avoiding the "great expense," if not the "difficulty," of its production. There certainly were no proofs of a lavish expenditure, even in a single scene.

COVENT GARDEN, too, opened its doors on Thursday with that ancient monstrosity 'George Barnwell'

and 'Harlequin Crotchet and Quaver,' in which "music for the million" undergoes some strange modulations, little contemplated by Wilhelm or Hullah—and Mr. Marsh, a new clown, did his best to prove his title to a captaincy in "Mirth's crew."—At the HAYMARKET, Mr. Planché has been serving up, with his usual neat-handedness, the pretty old fairy tale of 'Graciosa and Percinet.'—At the PRINCESS'S, Mr. àBeckett, by sticking 'Joes,' old and new, on the 'Miller and his Men,' has converted an extravagant melo-drama into a melo-dramatic extravaganza;—while the LYCEUM began its holiday entertainments with a version of that not-to-be-dramatized tale 'The Chimes,' and ended them by a new version of 'Valentine and Orson.'

The acting of Mr. Macready appears to be exciting considerable sensation in the French metropolis, and critics and journalists agree in recognizing it as the true point of the *entente cordiale*. As a testimonial to the actor, the fact is the less valuable when we remember the direction which, on former notable occasions, the enthusiasm of our neighbours for the acted drama of England has taken; but its commercial consequences to the enterprise which he upholds are of the most favourable kind. Overflowing houses reward the managers; and the appetite for Shakspeare, which *Hamlet* and *Othello* have whetted, is looking eagerly forward to the production of *Macbeth*. Among our dramatic gossip at home, it is stated that Miss Kelly is to open her theatre early in next month.

MUSIC ABROAD.—We are sorry to read in the Paris journals of the destruction of the magnificent new organ in the Church of St. Eustache. It appears that our countryman, Mr. Barker (who has for some years been applying his ingenious mind to improve the organs of France), entered the instrument, to arrange some trifling disarrangement previous to the Christmas performances; that the candle he was obliged to use, slipped from his hands, rolled into a corner of the complicated machine, from which there was no extricating it, and set it on fire. The church, too, is very severely damaged; the pulpit, after a design by Lebrun, broken to pieces, by people anxious to preserve the carved wood work: several chapels entirely disfigured, and painted windows broken.—M. Spontini has set out from Dresden for Paris, where his presence is desired as member of the musical section of the French Institute. He has just received a letter from Rome, informing him that the Pope has attached to his property in the Roman States the title of Count, as a reward for various benevolent institutions founded by M. Spontini, and for his work on the reform of the sacred music of Italy, undertaken at the Pope's request. M. Spontini is to bear the title of Count de Saint-André.—The last solemn scene of the translation of the remains of Weber was enacted, at Dresden, on the 14th inst. The coffin, covered with black velvet, embroidered with crowns of laurel, in silver and green silk, arrived in that city from Magdeburgh, by the railroad, on the same day. At eight o'clock in the evening, it was transported in a boat to the right bank of the Elbe, where 500 infantry of the royal guard, with torches in their hands, were waiting to receive it. In the interior of a circle formed by the troops, were placed the members of the king's musical band, those of the two theatres, and several other amateurs,—by whom the coffin was removed from the boat. A funeral hymn, composed by Wagner, a pupil of Meyerbeer, was then chanted by 450 singers, with the necessary instrumental accompaniment. The coffin was carried, followed by an immense crowd, to the Catholic chapel attached to the principal cemetery of Dresden; and, after the celebration of a funeral service in that temple, the remains of the great composer were interred beside those of his son, who died about five years since. All the houses in the streets, through which the funeral procession passed, were illuminated with wax candles, placed in the windows.—Mlle. Lindt, the Swedish *prima donna*, has appeared at Berlin, in 'Norma,' with brilliant success, if we are to trust the papers;—and M. Meyerbeer is said to have proclaimed her, in letters to Paris, as the songstress he has been so long waiting for, from which our French friends are once again anticipating his 'Prophète' at l'Académie. Indeed,

the time of that opera seems fully come; and this not only for the revival of that ruined theatre, but for the glory of the composer, whose inaugural work at Berlin, it is reported, is to be "reserved for state occasions,"—a reserve significant to all familiar with the world behind the scenes. Meanwhile Mr. Balfe's 'Four Sons of Aymon' are said to have made a triumphant entry into Vienna.—The *Allgemeine Musikalische Zeitung* contains a satisfactory account of the *début* of Miss Lincoln at the Leipzig concerts. Her brilliant execution of 'Bel Raggio,' from 'Sémiramide,' is especially commended; "after which," concludes the critic, "the applause was particularly marked and loud." Of an Italian violin player, Sig. Bazzini, also at Leipzig, a correspondent speaks in the highest terms.—We have also news from Italy of the promising first appearance of a Signor Gionesi, said to be an Englishman. Can this be a Mr. Jones? If so, all honour to him, and to all other Englishmen who emulate the enterprise of their countrywomen. We had hoped, however, that this childish masquerading fancy had been brought into discredit by recent "mountain" puffs, followed by "mouse" performances. All charlatanism, even so unimportant as the mystification of a name, is disadvantageous to the progress of Music in England,—and, to speak in the style of Alderman Cate, it should be "Put Down."

MISCELLANEA

Paris Academy of Sciences.—Dec. 9.—A paper was read on a new instrument for measuring tides, by M. Chazalon, called *Maréographe*.—A letter was received from M. Rouget de l'Isle, claiming, for an English chemist, in 1625, and whose name he gives, probably erroneously, as Frebet, the merit of the invention of the aerotherm ovens; and also that of the incendiary rocket of Capt. Warner, as described by M. Jobard, of Brussels.—M. Seligie made another communication respecting his mode of propelling vessels at sea by an explosive gas.—A paper was received from M. Desor, on the progressive movement of glaciers; and from M. Collomb, on the erratic rocks of the valley of St. Amarin.—M. Chevalier presented a note on the action of charcoal in discolouring and even decomposing coloured and other liquids.—M. Pelouze read a paper on lactic acid. It appears to be a natural product of importance in animal economy, and found in a great number of vegetable and animal substances. The action of sulphuric acid and heat upon lactic acid gives rise to an abundant development of oxide and pure carbon.—Messrs. Bernard and Bureswil communicated a paper on the chemical phenomena of the gastric juice. The acid reaction constantly shown by the gastric juice is one of its essential properties; neutralized by an alkali it loses its digestive power, which may be restored by an acid reaction. Acidity is only one of the elements of the gastric juice. This is proved by exposing it to a high degree of heat, nearly approaching ebullition. By this process its digestive property is destroyed, although the acid remains; some other important property is modified by heat, but what the chemical character of that property is, the authors of this paper do not state. They have, however, ascertained that the acidity of the gastric juice is due to the presence of a free acid, which is neither acetic acid nor chlorhydric acid, but lactic acid, which, according to them, is never absent from this secretion when in its normal state.—A paper was received from Dr. Natalis Guillot, on the black substance resembling charcoal, which is found in the lungs of man, and to which some of the French physicians have given the name of *mélanoë*.—A note was received from Prof. James Forbes, on the causes which permit the eye to adapt itself to variable distance [described *ante*, p. 976].—Dec. 16.—One of the first papers read was from M. Lefèvre, giving a description of a new break applicable to railroad carriages.—A letter was received from the Marquis de Jouffroy, complaining of the extraordinary delay of the commission appointed to report on his new system of railway. On a new atmospheric motive power, by M. Sy, which he calls perpetual.—A letter from M. Descombes called attention to the necessity of founding a practical school of agriculture in every department of France.—Letters were read from MM. Arthur, Clergé, and Peltier, on the electrical theory

of whirlwinds, and the effects of lightning.—M. Elie de Beaumont made some observations on a question submitted for consideration, viz.—"What relation exists between the progressive cooling of the earth and that of its surface." M. Elie de Beaumont thinks that the experiments made by M. Arago, in the gardens of the Observatory of Paris, with thermometers sunk in the earth at various depths, furnish the most essential elements which are necessary for the solution of the problem. According to this solution, the antiquity of the period when our globe was entirely incandescent is of a remoteness which defies calculation.—A communication was made on the fattening of geese, by M. Persoz. A hundred modes of fattening geese have been conceived, but most of those who have engaged in the speculation have been of opinion that it was necessary the food should contain the elements of fat to be eliminated by the geese in the process of digestion. M. Persoz is of a different opinion. He contends that it is of no consequence whether the food be of the kind alluded to or not, as the geese, he says, forms in the process of digestion fat from any food, if it contains a certain proportion of azote.—M. Baudrimont read a paper, drawn up in concert with M. Martin Saint-Ange, on the organic development of the embryo in animals.—A paper was received from M. Amussat on the treatment of wounds of the blood-vessels.—M. Bonjour, a chemist at Chambéry, sent an account of two cases of gangrene, produced by the eating of ergot, but both of which were cured by proper treatment.

Society of Antiquaries.—The gentleman who has seen his name several times in the 2500. Index has a very singular notion of rewarding secretaries of learned societies, which he seems to hint should be in proportion to their gentlemanly manners and their kind indulgence to the plebeian portion of the fraternity they are engaged to serve. Mr. Carlisle will not thank such advocates who force upon people a critical examination of facts. The Council did not order him to make the Index! As Mr. Pettigrew (one of the Council) observed, Mr. Carlisle came to them with the index ready made upon two or three thousand scraps of paper, &c.; and made claim upon a precedent of 1809! The Council would not pay, but threw the matter open to the public body, who, however, were never informed by circular (the custom in like cases with most societies) of the extraordinary proceeding, and were consequently quite in the dark on the subject, while the private friends of the applicant were as busy as bees. What does the gentleman who has seen his own name so often, mean, by applying the term "meritorious" to Mr. Carlisle as a reason why 2500. of funds deposited for special objects, should be given for friendship or charity? For more than forty years Mr. Carlisle has been a highly paid servant considering the nominal duties he has to discharge, and he holds conjointly, a situation (sinecure) in the British Museum. It is his own fault if he has not well provided for himself. No great extra work has he ever done for the society. His name in this Index does not once appear as furnishing a paper, and only four times as exhibiting matters the most trifling and insignificant! Had the Society thought him in any way entitled to a present, why did not some one, like your Fulham correspondent, come forward and propose a grant of money? This would have been a wiser and homelier course than to take advantage of a precedent of 1809, for giving for a most commonplace compilation 2500. more than it is worth.

West End, Dec. 24th, 1844.

The Flamingo.—There was shot lately on the Lake of Vitrelles, near Chimay, a "Phœnicopterus ruber," commonly called the Flamingo from its scarlet or flaming colour. It must say the ornithologists, have been driven out of its latitude by some violent tempest. It measured 4 feet 9 inches from the foot to the point of the beak, and 4 feet 10 inches from the tip of one wing to the other.

Presence of Mercury in Volcanic Rocks.—Mr. Malcolmson is said to have made the discovery of native mercury in the lavic rocks of Aden. The metal is scattered, in the condition of globules, at a depth of fifteen feet below the surface, filling small cavities in the interior of the rock.

Anti-inflammable Starch.—We have lately tested the efficacy of a species of starch invented by Baron Charles Wetterstedt, who has obtained a patent for his invention, with which if gauze, muslin, linen, or any substance used for clothes or dresses, be sprinkled or saturated, as with common starch, they will not ignite without difficulty; and if they do ignite, such is the anti-inflammable power of the composition that they will not blaze or emit flame, but will smoulder like tinder, or some substance over which combustion has little power. It neither injures the texture of the linen subjected to it, nor does it detract from the beauty of its appearance. Such an invention deserves investigation and public encouragement.—*Times.*

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4	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	1	1	1	1	1	1
7	1	1	1	1	1	1
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20th November 1836	616	£ 9,221 12 2	£ 10,738 3 0
" " 1837	435	14,600 0 0	31,352 10 5
" " 1838	459	19,934 19 4	46,850 0 10
" " 1839	490	25,427 4 2	64,959 10 10
" " 1840	494	31,051 10 10	96,545 13 9
" " 1841	357	36,257 1 4	114,992 2 4
" " 1842	344	39,369 9 7	130,838 1 7
" " 1843	703	44,219 17 0	167,071 11 2
" " 1844	722	55,037 9 2	202,161 1 9
Total Number	4,610		

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Years in Existence.	Age at commencement.	Sum Assured.	Amount of Bonus.	Original Premium.	Reduction in Premium.	Equal to a Reduction in Premium.
Years.	Years.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
1	20	1,000	163 11 0	£ 12 12 2	£ 2 12 2	£ 4
2	31	2,000	177 10 0	£ 18 20 11	£ 6 39	£ 39
3	42	3,000	227 10 0	£ 27 18 34	£ 10 35	£ 35
4	53	4,000	307 10 0	£ 37 12 17	£ 12 32	£ 32
5	64	5,000	411 10 0	£ 47 12 13	£ 13 28	£ 28
6	75	6,000	530 10 0	£ 57 12 17	£ 13 33	£ 33
7	86	7,000	663 10 0	£ 67 12 17	£ 14 10	£ 10
8	97	8,000	811 10 0	£ 77 12 17	£ 15 11	£ 11
9	108	9,000	974 10 0	£ 87 12 17	£ 16 11	£ 11
10	119	10,000	1,151 10 0	£ 97 12 17	£ 17 11	£ 11
11	130	11,000	1,343 10 0	£ 107 12 17	£ 18 11	£ 11
12	141	12,000	1,551 10 0	£ 117 12 17	£ 19 11	£ 11
13	152	13,000	1,774 10 0	£ 127 12 17	£ 20 11	£ 11
14	163	14,000	2,011 10 0	£ 137 12 17	£ 21 11	£ 11
15	174	15,000	2,263 10 0	£ 147 12 17	£ 22 11	£ 11
16	185	16,000	2,531 10 0	£ 157 12 17	£ 23 11	£ 11
17	196	17,000	2,815 10 0	£ 167 12 17	£ 24 11	£ 11
18	207	18,000	3,115 10 0	£ 177 12 17	£ 25 11	£ 11
19	218	19,000	3,431 10 0	£ 187 12 17	£ 26 11	£ 11
20	229	20,000	3,763 10 0	£ 197 12 17	£ 27 11	£ 11

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30 .. 1 1 8 .. 1 2 7 .. 2 7 2

40 .. 1 5 0 .. 1 5 0 .. 2 14 10

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11	1 9 3	41	4 1 9
12	1 11 3	42	4 11 6
13	1 14 4	43	5 1 14
14	1 17 0	44	5 6 9
15	2 0 3	45	5 7 4
16	2 3 0	46	5 8 9
17	2 6 6	47	5 10 4
18	2 10 0	48	5 11 6
19	2 13 0	49	5 12 6
20	2 16 0	50	5 13 6
21	2 19 0	51	5 14 6
22	2 22 0	52	5 15 6
23	2 25 0	53	5 16 6
24	2 28 0	54	5 17 6
25	2 31 0	55	5 18 6
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